

# STARS AND STRIPES<sup>®</sup>

**Scotland, Croatia,  
plus festive foods,  
holiday markets**  
Travel magazine inside



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warning on  
substance abuse**  
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**Five Pacers, five  
fans charged in  
basketball brawl**  
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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2004

50¢

# Ruling said to weaken DOD's policy on gays

Military court overturns soldier's conviction on sodomy charge Page 7

**Boy Scouts  
in Europe  
have little  
trouble  
finding  
new  
sponsors**

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BEN MURRAY/Stars and Stripes

Webelos members — 10-year-old Taylor Portman, left, and 11-year-old Michael Lowder — stand at attention at the Boy Scouts Troop 12 Court of Honor ceremony Monday at Ramstein Air Base in Germany. Webelos, who are Cub Scouts, are required to attend several Boy Scout events before joining the group themselves. A recent warning from the Pentagon has forced Scouting groups to find new sponsors because of a ruling that prevents military units from directly sponsoring the Scouts.

## STARS &amp; STRIPES

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## News Tracker ... What's new with old news

## States

**Housing development arson:** Investigators want to talk to the driver of a blue van that firefighters saw leaving a housing development in Indian Head, Md., where dozens of homes under construction burned, authorities said Wednesday.

Arson has been ruled the cause at least seven of the fires, and although the investigators do not know if the van was involved, they want to speak with the driver, said Capt. Joe Montminy of the Charles County sheriff's office.

The development, about 25 miles south of Washington, had been criticized by environmentalists, and investigators have not ruled out ecoterrorism, or any other motive such as race, in the blaze that destroyed 12 homes and damaged 14.

**Sept. 11 Fund disbanding:** A Sept. 11 charity backed by a big celebrity-fueled telethon will close its doors Wednesday, having raised more than \$500 million, officials said. The Sept. 11 Fund collected \$534 million, aided in large part by a telethon appeal from some of the biggest names in film, television and music.

The one-night fund-raiser 10 days after the 2001 attacks featured George Clooney, Tom Hanks and Bruce Springsteen, and viewers responded by donating nearly \$130 million for victims and their families.

**Antifreeze murder case:** Prosecutors in Georgia said Tuesday they will seek the death penalty against a woman convicted of fatally poisoning her husband with antifreeze and accused of killing a boyfriend the same way.

Lynn Turner, 36, was indicted in October on a charge of malice murder in the 2001 death of her boyfriend, firefighter Randy Thompson. In May, she was convicted in the 1995 murder of her husband, police officer Glenn Turner, and sentenced to life in prison.

Authorities allege life insurance was the motive in both cases.

**Kevorkian parole appeal:** The Michigan parole board declined to commute Jack Kevorkian's murder sentence or grant the assisted suicide advocate parole, saying his claims of ill health mirrored claims he made many years ago.

In a letter sent to Kevorkian's lawyer, the board said the application essentially was the same as one it rejected in November 2003, and said another attempt could be made for similar requests only after a full two years had passed.

Kevorkian's lawyer, Mayer Morganroth, said he would go directly to Gov. Jennifer Granholm and ask her to consider parole or a commuted sentence for the 76-year-old.

**Peterson sentencing:** Jurors in Redwood City, Calif., won't be allowed to consider sympathy for Scott Peterson's family when they decide if he should receive the death penalty.

Defense lawyer Mark Geragos argued that jury instructions should allow panels to consider the affect a death sentence would have on Peterson's family, given that the fetus was to be a grandson to both the victim's and the defendant's parents.

But Judge Alfred A. Delucchi declined to include the clause in jury instructions.

## World

**Palestinian elections:** Israel and the Palestinians have agreed on the logistics of the upcoming election to replace Yasser Arafat, a senior Palestinian official said Wednesday.



Ky. child murders: Carolyn Marksberry, left, and Chuck Marksberry, center, look at Marco Allen Chapman during a hearing in Burlington, Ky. Chapman pleaded guilty Tuesday to stabbing two of the Marksberys' children, 6-year-old Cody Sharon and 7-year-old Chebi Sharon, and asked a judge to sentence him to death. "For what I did to the Marksberys, my death is some way of redemption to them," Marco Allen Chapman said. "My life has never been worth much, I'll give it freely to them." The judge set a sentencing date for Dec. 14.

day, but he denied reports that the two sides had worked out a broader deal to end their decades-old conflict.

The Palestinians had demanded that Israel cease military operations and withdraw from Palestinian cities and towns to allow candidates to campaign for the Jan. 9 presidential elections to replace Arafat, who died last month.

The Palestinians also insisted that residents of east Jerusalem be allowed to vote, a demand that Israel has resisted. The Palestinians want east Jerusalem, annexed by Israel after the 1967 Mideast war, to be their future capital.

**Serb war crimes fugitive:** Former Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic, who has been the U.N. war crimes tribunal's top fugitive for nearly a decade, will not surrender, his brother said Wednesday.

"I know how he thinks and there is no one in the world who could talk him into surrendering," the fugitive's brother, Luka Karadzic, told The Associated Press.

**U.S.-Europe alliance:** Secretary of State Colin Powell challenged Europe on Wednesday to play a more active role with the United States in pursuing peace and democracy in the Middle East and Iraq.

"We need to have the courage to seek fundamental change and not be satisfied with just managing or containing threats," Powell told a gathering of young people ahead of a meeting of a NATO foreign ministers meeting on Thursday.

He said he was hopeful for a break in the impasse between Israel and the Palestinians, adding that the U.S. and European institutions must help that process along and make contributions elsewhere in the region.

**Turkey EU memberships:** Turkey's foreign minister Wednesday ruled out formal recognition of Cyprus before the divided island is reunited — a blunt message to European Union leaders demanding that Turkey take steps on the issue ahead of a key summit next week.

EU leaders are likely to open membership talks with Turkey at the Dec. 17 EU summit, but Cypriot President Tassos Papadopoulos has warned that his country may veto such a decision if Ankara refuses to recognize his country, which joined the EU in May. Several EU leaders have been pressuring Turkey to compromise on the issue.

**N. Korea nuclear talks:** A key U.S. envoy

on the North Korean nuclear issue met officials in Seoul on Wednesday amid a flurry of diplomacy aimed at persuading Pyongyang to return to six-nation talks on convincing it to abandon its nuclear ambitions.

Joseph DeTrani and Cho Tae-yong, head of Seoul's task force for the nuclear dispute, discussed the crisis that erupted in late 2002 after U.S. officials said North Korea admitted running a secret nuclear program in violation of international agreements.

Following the meeting, Cho told South Korean reporters that DeTrani expressed "disappointment" that no date for the next round of six-party talks has yet been fixed.

**Ukraine electoral reforms:** Ukraine's parliament adopted electoral and constitutional changes Wednesday in a compromise intended to defuse the nation's political crisis — prompting opposition leaders to say they would lift a two-week blockage of government buildings.

The vote came as a surprise after days of political maneuvering and massive street protests following the disputed Nov. 21 presidential runoff election. It suggested that opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko's camp had determined that the prolonged unrest could ultimately weaken the country and his own position ahead of a Dec. 26 rerun of that vote.

## Military

**U.S. Army deserter in Canada:** An American seeking to become the first U.S. soldier granted refugee status in Canada after refusing to serve in Iraq told immigration officials Tuesday that the Army was drilling its soldiers to think of all Arabs and Muslims as potential terrorists.

"We were being told that it was a new kind of war, that these were evil people and they had to be dealt with," Pfc. Jeremy Hinzman, 26, told the Immigration and Refugee Board the second of his three-day hearing for political asylum.

Hinzman is arguing that the war in Iraq is illegal and fighting in it would have made him a war criminal.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

# Boy Scouts working to find new sponsors

BY BEN MURRAY

Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — Boy Scouts of America leaders in Europe say they are having little trouble finding new, private sponsors for their troops after a legal settlement ordered military units to sever official ties with the scouting program.

Scout masters and regional leaders said veterans organizations such as the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and local unit booster clubs have stepped in as troop sponsors. Dan Adams, executive director of the BSA's Transatlantic Council, said Wednesday.

"We've got an incredible amount of support from the military structure here," said Adams.

In November, the Department of Defense told units not to sponsor Boy Scout or Cub Scout troops to comply with a legal settlement. The DOD settled with the American Civil Liberties Union, which chal-

lenged the direct government sponsorship of the Scouts because of the organization's requirement that troop members recite an oath of duty to God.

In Europe, military units charter 80 percent of scout troops, Adams said. More than 400 scout troops worldwide are affected by the restriction. About 200 of them are in the Transatlantic Council's region, which spans from Europe into North Africa and Turkey.

A DOD policy letter restricting government sponsorships of troops was sent just weeks before some European troops were scheduled to complete their annual re-chartering process, but Scout leaders adapted quickly.

Ramstein Air Base, Germany's Troop 12 Scoutmaster Andrew Turnbull said it took just two days for the group's committee to replace the 435th Air Base Wing's Construction and Training Squadron as its sponsor last week. A squadron booster club took over Troop 12's charter, he said.

Turnbull said the administrative changes will have little effect on individual troops, who simply will continue their activities under their new sponsors.

Chartering organizations for European Scout troops serve mainly in a symbolic role, helping the group coordinate events and reserve meeting facilities, but taking little part in day-to-day scouting activities, Turnbull said.

"Most kids wouldn't know how [the charter process] functions," Turnbull said. "To them, it's kind of transparent."

Scouts can still use military facilities for their functions and meetings, leaders said. Servicemembers also are still allowed to volunteer with the Scouts in their free time, the DOD policy letter said.

"It's just a matter of changing the paperwork, and everything will be fine," said Bob Schmidt, senior executive for the Scouts' Charlemagne District, which covers territory from the Netherlands to Morocco.

"When all is said and done, it'll have no real effect on us," Schmidt said.

Many troops are following the path of Ramstein's Troop 12 to find new sponsors.

Pat Hanlon, Horizon District commissioner and registrar for the BSA's Transatlantic Council, said, if a private organization can't be found, Scouts' parents can create their own chartering group. Hanlon and Schmidt, however, said scout troops in their districts have reported little problem finding new sponsors.

"I think it's not going too badly," said Meg Barrett, a Cub Scout committee chairperson for Pack 44 in Stuttgart, Germany. Her troop and others in the Stuttgart area already have made headway in securing a new sponsorship, she said.

Ian Nicholls, scoutmaster for Troop 232 out of Ramstein, said his group has yet to find a new sponsor. But he didn't think his program is threatened.

"We'll survive, [though] this is probably going to be the roughest ride we've had in a while," he said.

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# Gen. Bell sends warning to troops to stay off drugs

BY WARD SANDERSON

Stars and Stripes

The commander of U.S. Army Europe, Gen. B.B. Bell, has issued a substance abuse safety alert to troops following the deaths of two soldiers.

One died after a drug-and-alcohol-fueled car crash that also paralyzed his passenger, though no other details were available. The second case was that of a soldier who died in late October, possibly from poisoning, after apparently inhaling aerosol cleaner.

The soldier was found in his barracks room, lying face down on his bed. Blood and vomit stained the pillow.

Though that soldier was unnamed in Bell's message, it suggested new details in the death of Cpl. Jacques Francois Kessler.

The 22-year-old was found in his barracks on Oct. 25 at Cambrai-Fritsch Casern in Darmstadt, Germany. The military has previously refused to release further information, citing an ongoing investigation by the Criminal Investigation Command.

Kessler was a native of Tipp City, Ohio. He was assigned to the 440th Signal Battalion, 22nd Signal Brigade. He served one year in Iraq.

Though the death is under in-



Bell

vestigation, preliminary autopsy results found difluoroethane in his system. A can of spray cleaner containing the chemical was also found in the room, Bell's message said.

Bell's statement told leaders to be aware of drug abuse, including use of inhalants, and to send soldiers to counseling when appropriate. It also called on soldiers to police one another and make sure abusers get help.

"Remember, professional soldiers do not abuse drugs, drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or needlessly place their lives or the lives of others at risk," the signed message read. "We must live the Warrior Ethos and on off duty."

Both soldiers were attached to V Corps. Spokeswoman Connie

Summers said she had no further information to release on either death.

"At this time, there are no preliminary findings," Summers said, referring to the aerosol death. "We do not comment on preliminary findings."

Inhalants — which include cleansers, glue and rubber cement — can cause brain damage, paranoia, tremors and damage to kidneys and lungs. They can induce an irregular heartbeat, resulting in death. Aerosols can also freeze the respiratory system, suffocating the user.

A spokeswoman for the Army's Installation Management Agency-Europe said Bell's message did not signal any escalation in substance abuse.

"It's been pretty consistent,"

Millie Waters said. "There's no trend that shows an increase."

Since 2000, the Army has averaged about 2.75 alcohol or drug-related traffic offenses per day in Europe — a figure including troops, civilian employees and their families, Waters said. Most violations happen on weekends, and the majority of offenders are ages 18 to 25.

A spokesman for U.S. Army Europe said the "Bell Sends" message was intended as a cautionary one.

"General Bell, one of his top priorities is the safety of his soldiers," spokesman Bob Puritman said.

"The reason he puts them out is to let soldiers know what can happen."

E-mail reporter Ward Sanderson at: [sandersonw@starstripes.osd.mil](mailto:sandersonw@starstripes.osd.mil)

## Glow of Hanukkah lights up the Rota night



Left and right: Jewish Americans celebrate the beginning of Hanukkah on Tuesday evening by symbolically lighting the menorah at Naval Station Rota in Spain. Jews celebrate the eight-day holiday to honor the miracle of oil and commemorate the rededication of the Jerusalem Temple after it was desecrated by foreign military forces.



Bottom left: Danielle Plummer, center, recites blessings with other Jewish-Americans during Rota's Hanukkah celebration.

PHOTOS BY SCOTT SCHNAUER  
Stars and Stripes



# Murder trial continues for U.S. soldier

By KEVIN DOUGHERTY

Stars and Stripes

WIESBADEN, Germany — Defense attorneys for the Wiesbaden soldier accused of fatally stabbing another man in a nightclub last April expect to begin arguing their case Thursday, military attorneys said Wednesday.

On the third day of testimony at the general court-martial of Pvt. Nestor K. Velazquez, prosecutors called three DNA experts and a forensic specialist to the stand.

The three DNA experts concluded that the blood of the victim, Santo Scardino, was found on Velazquez's clothes and knife, the presumed murder weapon. Velazquez's blood also was found on a T-shirt Scardino wore that night, the experts said.

Scardino was stabbed to death early on April 18 in a popular nightclub in Mainz-Kas-

## Defense to begin arguing case for Wiesbaden troop accused of fatally stabbing man at club

tel, Scardino, 18, Velazquez, a second soldier and several of the victim's friends were involved in a dispute that escalated into a brawl.

Velazquez is on trial for one count of unpremeditated murder in Scardino's death.

One witness for the prosecution said glasses, beer bottles and ashtrays were thrown during the melee.

Earlier Wednesday, Debra Glidewell, an American DNA expert, testified that Scardino's blood was found on the accused's clothing and knife. She also said Velazquez's DNA was found on the knife, along with the blood of the victim and at least one other man.

Aside from Scardino, three other men suffered knife wounds in the fight.

Defense attorneys concede that Velazquez brandished a knife during the fight, but they maintain it was in self-defense.

Pfc. Anquan Huggins, the other soldier involved in the brawl, testified earlier in the week that Scardino and his friends attacked Huggins and Velazquez while they made their way to the bathroom.

On Wednesday afternoon, Peter Schmidt, a medical doctor and deputy of the Institute of Forensic Medicine in Frankfurt, said Scardino had five knife wounds. The fatal wound, Schmidt said, occurred on Scardino's side, near his heart, damaging the left chamber of the heart muscle.

"This particular stab wound was executed with great force," Schmidt said.

On cross-examination, Schmidt agreed with defense attorneys that three of the five wounds were superficial.

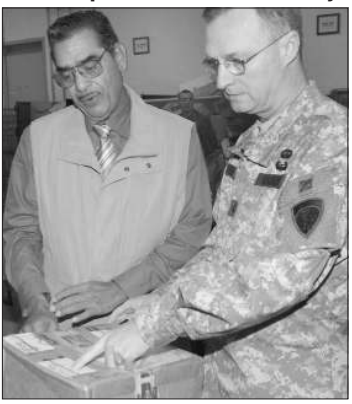
Lawyers for Velazquez have brought up during the trial the presence of a second suspect, a Moroccan man, who was near the scene. Glidewell, the DNA expert, told prosecutors that the clothing of the second suspect, who was later detained, had no bloodstains. During cross-examination, defense attorneys argued that that did not indicate the second suspect wasn't involved in the fight, and Glidewell agreed. Authorities also found a second knife at the scene.

Defense attorneys plan to call at least a couple of witnesses to the stand who will say that they saw the man at the scene with or near the knife.

E-mail Kevin Dougherty at: [doughertyk@mail.esrps.esd.mil](mailto:doughertyk@mail.esrps.esd.mil)

## Military official visits various postal facilities in Germany

Felipe Gonzalez, a postal technician for the 510th Postal Company, 510th Personnel Services Battalion, 1st Personnel Command, and Brig. Gen. Rusty Frutiger, U.S. Army Europe deputy chief of staff for personnel, discuss the Army postal system in Europe. Frutiger, along with his wife, Janice, took an early morning tour of postal facilities in Germany that mail must travel through before reaching its destination at Community Mail Room 420, which services Headquarters USAREUR. The tour included the German air mail terminal in Frankfurt, the Regional Post Office in Mannheim, the 546th General Dispensary unit mail room and CMR 420 and the official mail room at Campbell Barracks in Heidelberg. The Frutiger team thanked the men and women who are delivering the mail to USAREUR soldiers, family members and civilians.



JASON L. AUSTIN  
Photo courtesy of the U.S. Army

## Memorial service planned for teacher

A high school guidance counselor for Department of Defense Dependents Schools who died from cancer complications will be remembered at a memorial service Jan. 3.

Kathryn "Kaye" W. Camner, 58, died Friday while on sick leave in Denver. She had worked at Gen. H. H. Arnold High School in Wiesbaden, Germany, since October 2003, but was on the job for only four months before

force taking sick leave.

This was Camner's first DODDS assignment, having previously worked as a counselor in Bremerton, Wash., from 1992 to 2003 and in Santa Monica, Calif., in the 1970s.

She is survived by her two sons, Tyler and Ned Camner, and her daughter, Pearson Camner.

The memorial service, which will be at the Hainenberg chapel in Wiesbaden, will begin at 3:30 p.m.

From staff reports

## New service creating 'online mall' for sailors

Revamped program will give deployed Navy members more control over purchases

By SCOTT SCHONAUER

Stars and Stripes

NAVAL STATION ROTA, Spain — The Navy Exchange Services Command has hired a consulting firm to revamp its online uniform store.

Virginia-based McFadyen Consulting plans to launch a "Web store" that will sell uniforms online before June, company spokesman Juan Carlos Cole said. The new online uniform store will replace an older version that was launched in April, 2002.

The new system is designed to give sailors more control over purchases and a sailor will be able to create his or her own account.

The technology will be similar to what the top retail stores such as Best Buy or Neiman Marcus use.

"It's extremely more personalized ... but also a specific area," Cole said. "So people stationed in Rota are going to be treated a little different than, for example, people here in the [States]. All of

that will be maintained in the system."

The service will allow sailors to order merchandise, put it on hold and have it delivered to a specific address when they want it. For example, they could order an item while deployed on a ship and have it delivered a few days after they are scheduled to arrive home.

Or they could buy it the first week of December and request for it to be delivered a couple of days before Christmas.

"It's going to allow more flexibility in their purchases," Cole said.

Navy Exchange serves active-duty military personnel, retirees, reservists and their families on Navy bases worldwide. Profits from the stores are put into Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs.

The command has given \$2.2 billion back to such programs since it was created in 1946.

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# Armed for class

Würzburg students hope to get picked for coveted spot in innovative new guitar lab

BY RICK EMERT

Stars and Stripes

A new music program at Würzburg High School in Germany has struck a popular chord with would-be rock stars.

The school's guitar lab, started by music teacher Jeff Pellaton, uses state-of-the-art equipment and new software that lets students learn guitar at their own pace.

"It's like giving 15 separate guitar lessons at exactly the same time," Pellaton said. "Since they can move at their own pace, we are not holding anyone back, nor are we pressuring anyone to go faster than they are able to."

Students practice on their guitars, but the sound is fed through a cable into a headset each student wears, so it does not distract their peers. Pellaton has master control of the system and can listen in to any student's progress or mute the music to speak to the students through their headsets, he said.

The school's pianos also are linked into the system.

While the students can't perform a school concert with the system, they do have the ability to record their playing, and to add musical styles such as blues or rock as accompaniment to their own playing.

"I have considered having the students make a recording as part of the evaluation for the course," Pellaton said. "This is really exciting for the students — to be able to make an audio (compact disc) to take home and play for mom or dad or their friends."

The lab may be a bit too appealing to Würzburg High School students.

"We have had about 75 students try to sign up for the lab, and we only have 15 slots," Pellaton said.

One of the lucky students who got in is 11th-grader Sarah Brandt.

"I have wanted to learn how to play guitar forever, and this seemed really cool," Brandt said. "Right now, it's just a hobby, but it might turn into something more serious later."

Brandt, whose mother bought her a guitar to practice on at home, said she plans to take the level two guitar lab as well.

Students from Würzburg High School's guitar lab practice on their instruments in November. Music teacher Jeff Pellaton started the lab, which allows students to advance in their lessons at their own pace.

WALT SEELY/Courtesy of DODDS

"It's awesome how the technology works," she said. "The software makes it really easy to learn."

And although they don't get to experience the jitters of performing for the whole school, the students do perform solos and duets in front of the other students in the class, Pellaton said.

He said the guitar lab has the students' creative juices flowing.

"They can spend a lot of time on improvisation, and the interest is really high," he said. "It's amazing how quickly they are improving. With this new program, we are able to offer a musical outlet that may become a lifelong interest for them."

E-mail Rick Emert at: [emert@mail.strips.esd.mil](mailto:emert@mail.strips.esd.mil)

# AF Academy commanders faulted in sex assault report

BY JOHN SANCHE

The Associated Press

## Chain of events

The Associated Press

Timeline of the sexual assault scandal at the Air Force Academy:

■ February 2003: Air Force announces investigation of female cadets' charges against Lt. Gen. Wayne Allard, R-Colo., that they were sexually abused or disciplined after reporting sexual assaults.

■ March 2003: Defense Department begins independent inquiry.

■ June 2003: An internal Air Force investigation finds no "systemic accounting" by Air Force officials of assaults.

■ July 2003: Lt. Gen. John W. Rosa Jr. is recalled as superintendent. Former superintendent Lt. Gen. John Ballenger is acting on the problems.

■ September 2003: Civilian panel mandating Congress concludes that academy commanders failed to heed warnings about sexual assaults.

■ November 2003: Academy announces a review of the athletics department as part of its efforts to address the sexual assault scandal.

■ May 2004: The academy's oversight board, under a directive to get more involved in school, begins a review of the sexual assault scandal.

■ June 2004: President Bush delivers a commencement speech, praising Rosa for helping "restore the academy's tradition of honor."

■ July 2004: Athletics department review concludes athletes were not given special treatment.

■ August 2004: Brig. Gen. David Wagie resigns his faculty dean after the citizens panel criticized him for the Air Force Academy's handling of the sexual assault scandal.

■ September 2004: Pentagon names Air Force Brig. Gen. K.C. McCain to a newly created position as policy chief for the academy's related to sexual assault.

■ October 2004: Survey of cadets shows change in attitudes, with more willing to accept women. Pentagon confirms a military-civilian task force is reviewing how the Army and Navy academies handle sexual assault reports.

■ November 2004: Air Force Secretary Robert M. Gates passed over for Army secretary in part because of the academy's handling of sexual assault reports.

DENVER — A Pentagon report critical of the role of commanders at the Air Force Academy was blasted as inadequate by at least one former cadet who said she was raped by a classmate.

Inspector General Joseph E. Schmitz blamed, but did not identify, eight Air Force officers for their roles in policies that oversaw sexual-assault reporting at the academy, according to a summary of the report. Twenty-one other officers were found to have acted appropriately.

"It looks to me like they took a list of officers who are not on their good list and held them accountable when the officers who actually were the ones committing the wrongdoings at the academy were on the list that were exonerated."

*"... [T]he officers who actually were the ones committing the wrongdoings at the academy were on the list that were exonerated."*

Both Davis  
Former cadet

Davis, who left the academy as a junior in August 2002, said she was punished for reporting that she was raped — receiving a demerit for having sex in a dorm — and said her alleged attacker was not prosecuted.

The Pentagon did not release Schmitz's full report. Instead, Schmitz quoted from his report in a Dec. 3 memo to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld made public Tuesday.

Schmitz said academy commanders failed to recognize and deal with the seriousness of sexual assaults against female cadets.

Academy leaders should have been better rule models and should have kept a closer watch on their commands, he said.

"We conclude that the overall root cause of the sexual assault problems at the Air Force Academy was the 'failure of successive chains of command over the past 10 years to acknowledge the severity of the problem,'" Schmitz wrote.

Responding to the criticism, assistant Air Force secretary Michael Dominguez, said on NBC's "Today" show Wednesday that he could not comment on the full report, but said there are indications of progress in making cultural changes to prevent problems.

Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. John Rosa said he could not comment on the full report, but said there are indications of progress in making cultural changes to prevent problems.

Outside investigations have concluded the academy's culture contributed to the problem. That included lingering resistance to having female cadets at all. Last year, a survey of cadets found 22 percent did not believe women belonged at the academy, more than a quarter of a century after they were first admitted.

Last year, nearly 150 women came forward with accusations that they had been sexually assaulted by fellow cadets between 1993 and 2003. Many alleged they were punished for infractions such as drinking, ignored or ostracized by commanders for speaking out. Two cadets have been charged with sexual assault stemming from the investigation.

In response to sexual assault issues at the academy and in the armed forces, David Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, said the Pentagon soon would implement a new military-wide policy protecting the confidentiality of people who report being sexually assaulted.

"First and foremost, we want victims to come forward for help," something that hasn't happened enough in the past, Chu said.

Former Congressman Tillie K. Fowler, who headed a congressionally appointed panel that investigated the academy's culture, said she was disappointed with the Pentagon inspector general's report.

She said it did not hold accountable officers whom she said failed to "exercise the judgment, awareness and resourcefulness necessary to recognize that there was a serious misconduct and social climate problem in their command."

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## U.S. military court overturns soldier's sodomy conviction

## Experts: ruling is equally applicable to homosexual activity

BY MICHAEL DOBBS

*The Washington Post*

WASHINGTON — A military appeals court has overturned the conviction of a soldier for consensual sodomy in a decision that gay rights activists are hailing as an important legal victory removing some of the barriers to homosexual activity in the armed forces.

The previously unreported decision, handed down last week by the U.S. Army Court of Criminal Appeals, builds on a landmark Supreme Court ruling last year that struck down a Texas sodomy statute. It is believed to be the first time that a military court has upheld the right of consenting adults to engage in oral sex in private.

"It undercuts the premise of 'don't ask, don't tell,'" said Washington lawyer David Sheldon, who represents several soldiers fighting their dismissal from the armed forces because of homosexual activity. He was referring to a Pentagon policy that has led to the discharge of more than 9,000 openly gay servicemembers over the past decade.

Last week's court decision involved a male Army specialist

who was convicted of engaging in oral sex with a female civilian in a military barracks. Kenneth Bullock was charged under Article 125 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, which prohibits "unnatural carnal copulation with another person of the same or opposite sex or with an animal."

Officials at the U.S. Army Court of Criminal Appeals said the incident took place at Fort Polk, La.

Although the case involved a man and a woman, legal experts said the principles invoked by the three military judges were equally applicable to homosexual activi-

The constitutionality of Article 125 has come under assault as a result of last year's Supreme Court decision in *Lawrence v. Texas*, which upheld the notion of a "zone of privacy" for sexual relationships involving consenting adults.

This decision means that "even in the military you have a zone of privacy and can engage in sexual acts in private that used to be considered criminal," said Patricia Logue, senior counsel for Lambda Legal, which seeks to overturn anti-gay military statutes.

Legal experts said the Pentagon

could appeal the decision to the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces or to the Supreme Court, on the grounds that the military is a special institution with its own disciplinary procedures. Military lawyers at Fort Polk did not return calls.

"The Department of Defense policy on homosexual conduct in the military implements a federal law enacted in 1993 following extensive hearings and debate," Lt. Col. Ellen Krenke, a Pentagon spokeswoman, said in a Wednesday e-mail answer to a *Stripes* inquiry on the ruling. "The law would need to be changed to affect the Department's policy."

The law endorsed the right of the armed forces to exclude "persons who demonstrate a propensity or intent to engage in homosexual acts" that could undermine "morale, good order and discipline."

Gay activists have challenged the Pentagon ban and have won some preliminary skirmishes. This week, a dozen former armed forces members discharged for being gay or lesbian filed a federal suit in Boston, challenging the constitutionality of "don't ask, don't tell."

Stars and Stripes contributed to this report.



PHOTOS BY TERRY BOYD/Stars and Stripes

**Top:** Kelli Shamhart, center, floated above her fellow dancers in the 10-year-old and up group, from left, Paola Ledesma, Ashley Acevedo, Mackenzie Randall, Alicia Poore and DiAndria Donaldson.

**Bottom:** Ballerinas from the 8- and 9-year-old class are studies in concentration as they dance the Waltz of the Snowflakes. From left are Danielle Montano, Railey Swaims, Kristina Mahler, Erica Hayag and Natasha Vasquez.

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# Gs grill Rumsfeld on lack of armor

By ROBERT BURNS  
The Associated Press

CAMP BUEHRING, Kuwait — Disgruntled U.S. soldiers complained to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld on Wednesday about the lack of armor for their vehicles and long deployments, drawing a blunt retort from the Pentagon chief.

"You go to war with the Army you have," he said in a rare public airing of rank-and-file concerns among the troops.

In his prepared remarks earlier, Rumsfeld had urged the troops — mostly National Guard and Reserve soldiers — to discount critics of the war in Iraq and to help "win the test of wills" with the insurgents.

Army Spc. Thomas Wilson of the 278th Regimental Combat Team that is comprised mainly of citizen soldiers of the Tennessee Army National Guard, asked Rumsfeld in a question-and-answer session why vehicle armor is still in short supply, nearly two years after the start of the war that ousted Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

"Why do we soldiers have to dig through local landfills for pieces of scrap metal and compromised ballistic glass to uparmor our vehicles?" Wilson asked. A big cheer arose from the approximately 2,300 soldiers in the cavernous hangar.

Rumsfeld hesitated and asked Wilson to repeat his question.

"We do not have proper armored vehicles to carry us in our night," Wilson said after asking again.

Rumsfeld replied that troops should make the best of the condi-



Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld has his picture taken Wednesday with American soldiers at Camp Udairi, north of Kuwait City, Kuwait.

AP photos

tions they face and said the Army was pushing manufacturers of vehicle armor to produce it as fast as humanly possible.

Another soldier complained that active-duty Army units sometimes get priority over the National Guard and Reserve units for the best equipment in Iraq.

"There's no way I can prove it, but I am told the Army is breaking its neck to see that there is not" discrimination against the National Guard and Reserve in terms of providing equipment, Rumsfeld said.

Yet another soldier asked, without putting it to Rumsfeld as a direct criticism, how much longer the Army will continue using its "stop loss" power to prevent soldiers from leaving the service who are otherwise eligible to retire or quit.

Rumsfeld said that this condition was simply a fact of life for soldiers at time of war.



At Camp Buehring, Kuwait, Spc. Thomas Wilson, left, of the 278th Regimental Combat Team — comprised mainly of reservists in the Tennessee Army National Guard — asks Rumsfeld why vehicle armor is still in short supply, nearly two years after the war in Iraq began.

## Air Force's top lawyer might face charges

By The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — A military investigation has concluded that the Air Force's top lawyer engaged in improper relationships with more than a dozen women over the last decade, two Defense Department officials familiar with the findings said.

While overseeing the work of 3,200 people, Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Fiscus, the Air Force judge advocate general, allegedly conducted affairs with enlisted women, officers and civilian employees in violation of military rules against fraternization, the officials said.

Charges against Fiscus could be made as early as Wednesday, the officials said. Defense officials and others in the Air Force legal community expect that Fiscus, if found guilty, likely would be drummed out of the ranks of general officers by being demoted at least two ranks and retired as a colonel.

If he pleads guilty or is found guilty at court-martial, Fiscus would be the first judge advocate general relieved for improper conduct, a Pentagon official said.

The investigation's conclusions were sent last month to Gen. Donald G. Cook, chief of the Air Education and Training Command, who is supposed to determine whether to take action against Fiscus. Cook is expected Wednesday to notify Fiscus of any charges he intends to recommend.

## 3 out of 4 Humvees armored, DOD says

By LISA BURGESS  
Stars and Burgess

ARLINGTON, Va. — Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld was "not embarrassed" by tough questions from troops Wednesday about the lack of armored vehicles in Iraq and other issues, Pentagon officials said Wednesday.

Rumsfeld received a very pointed question about the lack of armored vehicles in Iraq by Army Spc. Thomas Wilson during a "town meeting" at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, on Wednesday [see related story above].

Di Rita said that after hearing a broadcast of the town hall meeting, he "called and spoke with" the deputy commanding general of U.S. forces in Kuwait, Maj. Gen. Gary Speer, to ask him about the armor issue.

Di Rita said that Speer was "not certain of the specific situation [Wilson] was referring to," but that in general, it is the policy of U.S. commanders on the ground in Iraq to load unarmored Humvees on flat-bed trucks — which themselves are not armored, Di Rita said — and "convoy them" into Iraq.

The armored Humvees, mean-

while, are driven by soldiers into Iraq from Kuwait, Di Rita said.

Furthermore, Di Rita said, since the Army first identified a need for more armored Humvees in the fall of 2003, the service "has done just a superb job of turning around a component of industrial base that was doing different things" and turning the manufacturers to making both armored Humvees and armor kits for other vehicles.

At the time, Humvee makers were "producing something on order of 15 armored Humvees per month," Di Rita said. Today, that number is 450, he said, with \$1.2 billion spent since August 2003 on armor and armored Humvees alone. As a result, "three out of four" Humvees now in Iraq are armored, he said.

Di Rita said that the fact that commanders did not anticipate the need for more armored vehicles in Iraq until well after the war itself was over did not reflect poor planning on the part of Pentagon leaders, as some critics have alleged.

"Combat planning is not a crystal ball; it's not predictions," Di Rita said. "It's the ability to be flexible enough to change things as needed."

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# Task force helps baby

## Sick girl gets U.S. medical treatment

BY STEVE LIEWER

Stars and Stripes

A 14-month-old Iraqi girl has returned home after six months of treatment in Ohio for a disfiguring birth defect, according to a news release from the Tikrit-based Task Force Danger.

Doctors at Children's Hospital in Columbus had treated Fatemah Hassan since May for a cavernous hemangioma, an abnormal growth of blood vessels on the right side of her face, neck and upper chest that had swelled to the size of two softballs, the release said. The condition is treatable in the United States, but rural Iraq lacks the necessary medicines and surgeons.

Last spring Fatemah's mother, Baday Amir Abdel-Jabar, had brought the girl to the front gate of Forward Operating Base Rough Rider, a U.S. military base near their hometown of Mandali, the release said. Mandali is about 75 miles northeast of Baghdad, near the Iranian border. FOB Rough Rider has since been closed.

Lt. Col. Todd Fredericks, a surgeon for the West Virginia Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 150th Armor Regiment, worked with the Iraqi Defense Ministry and the Coalition Provisional Authority to arrange transportation to Columbus, according to the release. Fredericks knew doctors from Ohio State University who would treat Fatemah for free.

The doctors there at first had planned to operate but decided to postpone the surgery until the girl turns 5, the release said. Instead, they treated the girl with chemotherapy. She will continue to take medicine until she is old enough for the operation, according to the release.

While in Columbus, the baby and her mother lived with a Muslim family and commuted to the hospital, the release said. She returned to Mandali in November.

Task Force Danger is commanded by the Germany-based 1st Infantry Division and comprises 22,000 soldiers patrolling a large area north and east of Baghdad.

E-mail Steve Liewer at:  
liewers@mail.strips.osd.mil



Baday Amir Abdel-Jabar holds her daughter, Fatemah, at their home in Mandali, Iraq. The 14-month-old Iraqi girl was treated for a birth defect by doctors at Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. Fatemah was given chemotherapy and is being medicated until she is old enough for surgery at age 5.

Photo courtesy of the U.S. Army

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# U.S. combat deaths at 1,001

BY SLOBODAN LEKIC

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — The Pentagon said Wednesday that the number of U.S. combat deaths in Operation Iraqi Freedom now is above 1,000.

An American soldier was slain Tuesday by small-arms fire while on patrol in Baghdad. On Wednesday, the Pentagon's Web site listed the total number of U.S. combat deaths at 1,001.

The military also said a Marine died in a vehicle accident in western Iraq. The deaths brought the number of U.S. military who have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003 to 1,279, according to an Associated Press tally.

In Iraq, insurgents launched assaults around Samarra on Wednesday, trading gunfire with U.S. forces, attacking a convoy, and blowing up a police station after looting its armory.

The gunmen in Samarra stormed a police station, looted the weapons inside and blew up the building, according to a police officer. A policeman and a child standing nearby were killed during the clashes before the insurgents fled.

The violence in Samarra killed four Iraqis and wounded several others. The city's police chief later announced he was resigning; his house was attacked earlier Wednesday and he said his family had asked him not to go back to work.

"When I felt that I wasn't carrying out my duties as I should, I had to give an opportunity for someone else to carry on," Maj Gen. Talib Shamel al-Samarrai said.

## U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Tuesday, at least 1,279 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 999 died as a result of hostile action, the Defense Department said. The figures include three military civilians.

The AP count is five higher than the Defense Department's tally, last updated at 10 a.m. EST Tuesday.

The British military has reported 74 deaths: Italy, 19; Poland, 13; Spain, 11; Ukraine, nine; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary and Latvia one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,141 U.S. military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 890 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

American soldiers were also attacked by small-arms fire near a traffic intersection, but no one was hurt. The soldiers began leaving cars after the incident and fired at two vehicles that failed to stop when ordered to, killing both drivers, the military said.

A suicide bomber also detonated his explosives-packed car near two U.S. Bradley

fighting vehicles parked outside an American base, injuring one Iraqi civilian, while insurgents attacked American forces at another location with machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades. No U.S. casualties were sustained.

The U.S. military hailed its September-October operation to retake control of Samarra as a success, but violence there

The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ One Marine was killed Tuesday in a nonhostile vehicle accident in Anbar province.

■ One U.S. soldier died Tuesday in Baghdad of wounds received from small arms fire.

The latest identifications reported by the military:

■ Army Cpl. Joseph O. Betinke, 45, New York, died in a vehicle accident Saturday in Baghdad, assigned to the Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 258th Field Artillery Regiment, New York City.

■ Army Staff Sgt. Kyle A. Eggers, 27, Euless, Texas, died Sunday in Habbaniyah when his vehicle was struck by an explosive, assigned to the 1st Battalion, 506th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Greaves, South Korea.

■ Army Sgt. Michael L. Boatright, 24, Whitesboro, Texas, killed by an explosive Saturday in Baghdad, assigned to the 20th Engineer Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.



British Defense Secretary Geoff Hoon visits British troops in Basra, Iraq, on Wednesday. As Hoon discussed preparations for Iraq's Jan. 30 elections with Basra's governor, U.S. troops fought insurgents who launched multiple assaults in Samarra.

has persisted. American and Iraqi forces have killed 127 fighters and 20 civilians.

Clashes also broke out in Kamadi between American troops and insurgents around a U.S. base. A hospital official said three civilians were killed and one was wounded.

In southern Iraq, British Defense Minister Geoff Hoon met with some of Britain's 9,000 soldiers who recently returned from a mission in support of U.S.-led efforts to catch insurgents from a wide area south of Baghdad, spokesman Maj. David Gibb said.

Hoon discussed election preparations with Basra's governor, Hassan al-Rashid, during his one-day visit.

## Report: Defense workers warned not to talk about treatment of detainees

BY PAISLEY DODDS

The Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — U.S. special operations forces accused of abusing prisoners in Iraq warned defense intelligence personnel not to talk about the alleged mistreatment they saw, according to a government memo to a top adviser of Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld.

In the memo written June 25 after the Abu Ghraib prison abuse scandal had gone public, the head of the Defense Intelligence Agency complained about the harassment of DIA personnel, including one case where special forces confiscated photos of a prisoner they punched.

Defense intelligence workers also had their e-mail monitored and were ordered by a special operations task force "not to talk to anyone" about what they saw, said the memo, which was among internal documents released Tuesday by the American Civil Liberties Union.

Prisoners arriving at a detention center in Baghdad had "burn marks on their backs" as well as bruises and some complained of kidney pain, Vice Admiral Lowell E. J. Brown, the defense intelligence chief, wrote to Stephen Cambone, undersecretary of defense for intelligence.

U.S. agents also reported seeing detainees at Abu Ghraib subjected to sleep deprivation, humiliations

and forced nudity between October and December 2003 — when the most serious abuses allegedly took place in a scandal that remains under investigation.

The release of the ACLU documents came a day after The Associated Press reported that a senior FBI official wrote a letter to the Army's top criminal investigator complaining about "highly aggressive" interrogation techniques at the U.S. prison camp in Guantanamo Bay dating back to 2002.

The memos and letter reveal behind-the-scenes tensions between the FBI and U.S. military and intelligence task forces running prisoner interrogations at Guantanamo and in Iraq as the Bush administration sought better intelligence to fight terrorists and the deadly Iraq insurgency.

Other memos released by the ACLU detail FBI interviews with detainees at Guantanamo who described CIA officer Johnny "Mike" Spann's death in Afghanistan Nov. 25, 2001.

One detainee said Spann was "was jumped by an Arab or Pakistani male, but the armed man (Spann) shot the prisoner. People began running and chaos ensued." Another detainee said "There was an explosion ... from a grenade."

There have been scant details so far of Spann's death at the prison riot in Mazar-e-Sharif.

Vickie Chazera of The Associated Press contributed to this report from Tampa, Fla.

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## IN THE STATES

## Senate leaders expect intel bill to pass easily

BY JESSE J. HOLLAND

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Senate worked toward approval Wednesday of legislation transforming the United States' Cold War-era spy network into a more agile system aimed at preventing terrorist attacks like those on Sept. 11, 2001.

"We are rebuilding a structure that was designed for a different enemy at a different time, a structure that was designed for the Cold War and has not proved agile enough to deal with the threats of the 21st century," said Senate Governmental Affairs chairwoman Sen. Susan Collins.

Sen. Joseph Lieberman said, "For the first time in over half a century, we are going to modernize our national intelligence structure to meet the new challenges we face in today's world."

As debate in the Republican-controlled Senate opened, the chambers leaders predicted the bill would easily pass. Said incoming Democratic leader Harry Reid of Nevada, "This vote is not close or controversial in any way."

The House passed the bill overwhelmingly on Tuesday, 336-75, after President Bush endorsed it and House Republicans satisfied themselves that the measure would not negatively affect the nation's military.

The president "greatly looks forward to Senate passage and ultimately to signing the bill into law," White House spokesman Trent Duffy said late Tuesday as the president flew back to Washington from a visit with Marines at Camp Pendleton, Calif.

The Sept. 11 commission, in its July report, said disharmony among the nation's 15 intelligence agencies contributed to the inability of government officials to stop the 2001 attacks that killed nearly 3,000 people in New York City, at the Pentagon and in Pennsylvania.

The new structure should help the agencies work together to prevent such disasters in the future, lawmakers said.

"This legislation is going to make a real difference to the security of our country," said Collins. "It is going to improve the quality of intelligence provided to our military and it will help to keep civilians safer here at home."

Senators said Tuesday they were confident the bill would pass.

But because Congress had to hold a special session to get a final agreement, Wednesday's vote was expected to be extended to late in the day to accommodate senators rushing back to the Capitol from across the nation.

Heavy and persistent lobbying by the bipartisan Sept. 11 commission and families of attack victims kept the legislation alive through the summer political conventions, the Nov. 2 elections and a postelection lame duck session of Congress.

Families of several Sept. 11 victims held hands and wept as the House passed the legislation.

## Major points of the intelligence reform legislation

■ Creates a new position, Director of National Intelligence, who will be the principal adviser to the president and coordinate the nation's spy agencies. The position will be above the CIA director.

■ Establishes a National Counterterrorism Center for planning intelligence missions.

■ Creates a Privacy and Civil Liberties Board of private citizens, with access to all government agencies, to oversee privacy pro-

tections.

■ Establishes minimum standards for birth certificates and driver's licenses and improves security of Social Security cards.

From The Associated Press



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# IBM selling PC business to Chinese firm

BY BRUCE MEYERSON  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — International Business Machines Corp. is selling a majority stake in its pioneering personal computer business to China's biggest computer maker, Lenovo Group Ltd., for \$1.75 billion in cash and stock.

The widely expected deal, one of the biggest Chinese overseas acquisitions ever, would make Le-

novo the third-largest PC company in the world. IBM currently holds that spot.

The sale extends IBM's long-running transition from leader and innovator in computer hardware to a dominant force in computer services, software and consulting.

About 9,500 IBM workers will become employees of the new company, doubling Lenovo's work force.

The stock IBM is receiving will give it an 18.9 percent stake in the merged company, which will have an estimated 8 percent share of the worldwide PC market. The combined PC revenue for the two companies in 2003 was \$12 billion.

The deal will give Lenovo ownership of two well-respected IBM brands: the ThinkPad laptop name and the ThinkCentre desktop name.

Stephen M. Ward Jr., currently IBM senior vice president and general manager of IBM's Personal Systems Group, will serve as the chief executive officer of Lenovo following completion of the transaction. Yanning Yang, currently vice chairman, president and chief executive officer of Lenovo, will serve as the chairman of Lenovo after the transaction.

IBM executives sought to reassure jittery investors, customers

and employees, emphasizing the company's focus on continuity.

"The IBM brand will gain great recognition in China, the world's fastest growing economy and the world's fastest growing market for PCs," said John Joyce, IBM senior vice president and group executive of IBM Global Services.

Lenovo is China's biggest computer maker, claiming a 27 percent market share, as well as the biggest in Asia. Its shares are traded in Hong Kong.

The companies expect that by combining operations, they'll be able to save money on manufacturing and expand their razor-thin profit margins despite intense pricing pressures. Lenovo also hopes the IBM brand and the company's vast corporate client base will bolster its sagging fortunes.

Globally, IBM sold 6.8 million PCs in the first nine months of 2004 for a 5 percent market share, research firm Gartner Inc. said.

That compares with 16.4 percent for Dell Inc. and 13.9 percent for Hewlett-Packard Inc., which makes both the HP and Compaq brands.



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## Bush to sign bill

WASHINGTON — President Bush was poised Wednesday to sign a \$388 billion legislative package that covers the spending of every federal agency but the Pentagon and Department of Homeland Security.

The measure includes \$30.3 billion for veterans' health care programs, \$1.9 billion over last year and \$1.2 billion more than Bush wanted.

## Commuter van crash

LOS ANGELES — A commuter van from NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory tumbled 200 feet off a mountain road Wednesday, killing at least three people, authorities said.

The van carrying 11 people, including a driver, plunged off Angeles Crest Highway in the Angeles National Forest and rolled down the mountainside, Los Angeles County Fire Department inspector Ron Haralson said.

## Wire-transfer security

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration wants U.S. money transfer businesses, such as Western Union, to take steps to make sure their overseas agents aren't vulnerable to terrorist financiers and money launderers.

The Treasury Department's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, known as FinCen, issued guidance Wednesday aimed at addressing this potential weak spot.

From The Associated Press

# Hubble repair may be costly and shaky

BY MARCIA DUNN  
The Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — NASA is bracing for a double volley of bad news regarding its tentative, experimental — and some would say wild — plan to send a robot to rescue the Hubble Space Telescope.

In the coming days, an aerospace research group expects to hand over a report that suggests that trying to save the famed space telescope with a robot would cost \$2 billion with just a 50-50 chance of success. And that thumbs-down is likely to be preceded by another potentially negative finding from the National Academy of Sciences, due to report on Wednesday.

Both reports could spell doom for the popular, aging Hubble, whose fans have lobbied heavily to get it repaired to prolong its life and continue its stream of stunning and revealing pictures from space.

NASA requested the reviews of the National Academy and the Aerospace Corp., a California-based nonprofit research group, in hopes that a robotic repair could be made.

An Aerospace Corp. summary

provided to the academy estimates a robotic Hubble mission would cost \$2 billion and take at least five years to be ready for launch. By then, there would be a less than 40 percent chance that Hubble still would be functioning.

Less than three years would be needed to launch a shuttle mission to Hubble, for no more money and with the usual medium risk of mission success, the company said.

The full 100-page report is expected to come out this week or next, a company spokesman said.

In an interim report over the summer, a National Academy panel of scientists, aerospace experts and astronauts who have worked in orbit with Hubble urged NASA to keep its options open for one last service call by space shuttle astronauts. The panel did not rule out a robotic mission but noted its complexity and the technical challenges.

But NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe has stuck by his guns that regardless of what the academy or the Aerospace Corp. says, no people will risk their lives to fix Hubble.

On Wednesday, the National Academy of Sciences will issue its final report on the subject.



NASA/AP

Stunning images like this, of nebula N44F being inflated by a stellar wind, have won NASA's Hubble Space Telescope a devoted following. But trying to save the famed Hubble Space Telescope with a robot would cost \$2 billion with just a 50-50 chance of success, an aerospace research group reportedly will advise NASA.

"These reviews have tended to reinforce NASA's sense that although [a robotic mission] is feasible, it will be extremely challenging and will require very disciplined management," the space agency said in a statement Tuesday.

NASA will spend the coming year evaluating the robotic rescue plan and decide next summer whether to proceed. If nothing else, the space agency promises to launch a deorbit tug to guide Hubble down over the ocean — and not over populated areas — well before it would tumble in on its own during the next decade.

Even in old age, Hubble has become the hottest of potatoes.

The space agency should be used to that by now, after years of suffering through the space telescope's blurry vision and then celebrating the greatest space repair job of all time and rejoicing in the most astounding pictures of the cosmos ever seen.

"NASA thinks of these things as their own and they forget not only who paid for it, but that NASA did such an incredibly good job of publicizing it and getting the information out, it's just been adopted as a telescope that an awful lot of people care about," said retired NASA scientist Stephen Maran. "Many people feel that the most important thing that the manned program did since the moon exploration is the repair and the servicing of the Hubble Space Telescope."

## N.Y. official seeks seat

ALBANY, N.Y. — New York Attorney General Eliot Spitzer, whose white-collar crime investigations have sent a shudder through Wall Street, announced Tuesday he is running for governor in 2006.

The 45-year-old Democrat has long been known to be interested in the job, and the announcement only confirmed what some in the embattled financial industry have been bitterly suggesting for years — that he has his eye on higher office.

Republican Gov. George Pataki has not said whether he will seek a fourth, four-year term, though the state GOP chairman has said he expects the governor will run.

## Cruise line admits guilt

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — A cruise ship company will plead guilty to discharging 20,000 gallons of untreated sewage from one of its ships while docked in Juneau harbor, the U.S. attorney's office said.

In addition to paying \$200,000 in fines and \$500,000 in restitution, Holland America Line Cruise Ships will spend \$1.3 million on a plan to prevent similar accidents.

The problem arose aboard the 1,258-passenger ship on Aug. 17, 2002, and was compounded when the crew ignored audible and visual alarms activated when a sewage tank approached maximum capacity.

From The Associated Press

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# Rapper West gets 10 Grammy nods

## Usher, Alicia Keys receive eight award nominations each

BY ANTHONY BREZNICAN

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The Grammys have gone autobiographical. Kanye West raps about religion, his fears and his own greatness.

Usher steamed up the charts

with songs about sex, affairs and breakups. Alicia Keys sang about aching for love, confiding secrets and imagining a different future for herself.

Their reward for the tell-all music — a collection of Grammy nominations Tuesday, 10 for West and eight each for Keys and Usher.

After last year's glossy pop, rap and rock led by OutKast's Grammy-winning "Hey Ya!," all three of these artists energized the charts this year by exposing deeply personal emotions, ideas, desires, flaws and insecurities.

"I think we all put a piece of ourselves, if not all of ourselves

— I know I put every single inch — into my music, my songs, my production and everything. I think that's something that can be said for all three of us," Keys said.

Producer-turned-rapper West led all Grammy nominees and scored a bid for album of the year



AP

**Rapper Kanye West performs during the 4th annual BET Awards in Los Angeles on June 29. West received 10 nominations during the Grammy Awards nomination announcements Tuesday.**

for his debut "The College Dropout," which stood out in the rap landscape because of its atypical prose.

It avoided the usual plot lines about sex, money and violence and touched on everything from his faith to his fears of failure and other crises from his life.

He also had a nomination for best new artist and shared a song-writing bid for song of the year with his religious hit "Jesus Walks."

The performer is known for bragging. In the press room at the recent American Music Awards, he claimed he was "definitely robbed" when he picked up no trophies.

West also was apologetic and regretful over the way he reacted at the AMAs last month. "I should have accepted that more gracefully. I'm really ashamed of the way I reacted to that situation."

Half of West's 10 nominations were in the rap field, including best rap album. He competes against himself in the best rap-sung collaboration with the songs "Slow Jamz," performed along with Twista and actor-singer Jamie Foxx, and "All Falls Down," which he performed with Syleena Johnson.

The eight respective nominations for Usher and Keys, who collaborated on the hit "My Boo," included album of the year for Keys' "The Diary of Alicia Keys" and Usher's "Confessions."

Ray Charles, whose posthumous duets album, "Genius Loves Company," became the biggest-selling album of his long career, had seven nominations including album of the year and record of the year for "Here We Go Again," sung with Norah Jones.

Green Day garnered six bids for its hard-driving rock-punk album "American Idiot," which satirized culture, politics and apathy.

The group was nominated for record of the year and best rock song for the title track and best rock album.

The Grammys will be given out Feb. 13 in Los Angeles.

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# Study suggests laptops may cramp male fertility

By LEE BOWMAN

Scraps Howard News Service

All that computer time on the road or at home may be taking more of a toll on some men than they realize.

Reproductive experts warn in a new study that heat generated by laptop computers can have an adverse effect on male fertility.

The study, reported Thursday in the journal *Human Reproduction*, showed that testicular temperatures rose by between 4.6 and 5 degrees Fahrenheit in an hour among a group of healthy male volunteers.

"Laptops can reach internal operating temperatures of over 158 degrees, they are frequently positioned close to the scrotum and as well as being capable of producing direct local heat, they require the user to sit with thighs close together to balance the machine," said Dr. Yefim Shenykin, associate professor of urology and director of Male Infertility and Microsurgery at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Shenykin and colleagues

worked with 29 healthy volunteers aged 21 to 35, measuring testicular temperatures with and without working laptops during two one-hour sessions.

Previous studies have shown that increases in testicular temperatures between 1.8 and 5.2 degrees have a sustained negative effect on sperm development and fertility.

"The body needs to maintain a proper testicular temperature for normal sperm production and development," Shenykin said. "Portable computers in a laptop position produce scrotal hyperthermia by both the direct heating effect of the computer and the sitting position necessary to balance the computer."

The researcher noted that by next year, some 60 million laptop computers will be in use in the United States and some 150 million worldwide. "Continued improvements in power, size and price of laptop computers have favored their increased use in younger people, and laptop sales now exceed those of desktop computers," Shenykin said, adding

that higher power requirements may generate even more heat.

Surface temperatures of the two brands of computers used in the study increased from nearly 88 degrees at the start of the experiment to nearly 104 degrees after one hour.

Shenykin said "we don't know the exact frequency and time of heat exposure capable of producing reversible or irreversible changes in sperm development," and thus can't say precisely how long it might be possible to use a laptop at each sitting.

"Until further studies provide more information on this type of thermal exposures, teenage boys and young men may want to consider limiting their use of laptop computers on their laps, as long-term use may have a detrimental effect on their reproductive health."

Shenykin said it's possible that some type of external shielding or protective devices might help reduce the effect, but cautioned "it is essential to confirm the protective effect in a clinical study to prevent advertising and use of inefficient and useless products."

## Festival of Lights begins



LAS CRUCES (N.M.) SUN-NEWS/AP

Rabbi Gerald Kane lights the first candle on a menorah Tuesday with others at his house in Las Cruces, N.M. It was the first night of Hanukkah, the eight-day Jewish Festival of Lights that commemorates the rededication of the Temple by the Maccabees after their victory over the Syrians.



Astronauts John W. Young, left, commander, and Robert L. Crippen, pilot, crew members of the first flight in the space shuttle program, are shown at Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, in 1979. Young, the longest serving astronaut in history, plans to leave the space agency on Dec. 31.

# First shuttle leader to retire

The Associated Press

HOUSTON, Texas — The longest-serving astronaut in history, who flew twice to the moon and commanded the first space shuttle mission, has announced his retirement after 42 years at NASA.

John W. Young, 74, announced Tuesday his plans to leave the space agency on Dec. 31.

Young was the first human to fly in space six times and the only astronaut to pilot four different spaceflights.

He flew in the Gemini, Apollo and space shuttle programs.

"John's tenacity and dedication are matched only by his humility," said NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe.

"He's never sought fame and often goes out of his way to avoid the limelight."

Young joined NASA in 1962. His first mission was in 1965 as a pilot of the first manned flight of the Gemini program.

He went on to command the Gemini 10 in 1966, followed by his orbit of the moon in the Apollo Command Module in 1969.

Young went back to the moon in 1972, when he and another astronaut collected more than 200 pounds of lunar samples.

"John has an incredible engineering mind, and he sets the gold standard when it comes to asking the really tough questions," said William Readdy, NASA's associate administrator for space operations.

"When he talks, everybody listens."

In 1981, Young commanded Columbia during the first space shuttle mission. His final space mission came in 1983, when he again commanded Columbia.

"John Young has no equal in his service to our country and to humanity's quest for space. He is the astronaut's astronaut, a hero among heroes who fly in space," said Jefferson D. Howell Jr., director of the Johnson Space Center, where Young was an associate director for eight years.

## Teen wins chess title

SAN DIEGO — A 16-year-old boy has won the U.S. Chess Championship, making him the youngest player to claim the title since 14-year-old Bobby Fischer won it in 1958. Hikaru Nakamura of White Plains, N.Y., won the \$25,000 prize Monday after beating Alex Stripunsky, 34, of Rego Park, N.Y., in two overtime matches. The 11-day tournament began with a field of 65 competitors.

Nakamura, who was born in Japan, was taught chess by his stepfather and began playing competitively at age 7. A little more than two years later, he qualified as an American master.

Nakamura became an American grandmaster last year, eclipsing by a few months Fischer's record of attaining grandmaster status at age 15.

"Basically everything has been a blur," he said.

He is tutored at home by his mother. He said school would take too much time from chess.

His heroes are former chess champion Boris Spassky and Fischer.

## Schools get Gates funds

SEATTLE — Nearly \$30 million in grants from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will be used to expand a national network of early college high schools, intend-

ed to provide a fast track to college for underserved young people, the foundation said Tuesday.

The schools, working with a university or college, stress rigorous curricula in seeking to increase high-school graduation rates and college readiness for minority youth, according to the foundation. Students can earn a high school diploma and two years of college credit or an associate's degree.

The Seattle-based Gates Foundation and other contributors have contributed more than \$124 million to the network since 2001. Nearly 50 early college high schools have been established in 19 states, and about 120 more schools are planned.

From The Associated Press



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## IN THE WORLD

## Karzai to tackle Afghan drug production

BY STEPHEN GRAHAM

The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Afghan President Hamid Karzai plans to address tribal leaders Thursday on the need to eliminate this war-ravaged country's booming drug trade, an aide said.

Karzai was sworn in Tuesday as Afghanistan's first popularly elected leader. Vice President Dick Cheney, the highest-ranking U.S. official to visit Afghanistan since the fall of the Taliban three years ago, was among the 600 guests.

It "was one of the most historical days for Afghanistan and its people," presidential spokesman Khaleel Ahmad said Wednesday.

Karzai has not yet announced his Cabinet but was working on it, Ahmad said. He said the government was also busy arranging a counter-narcotics conference.

Hundreds of elders were expected to gather in the capital on Thursday to discuss plans for an American-sponsored crackdown on narcotics, underlining the issue's priority.

Afghan and U.S. officials have only recently begun to heed U.N.

warnings that the skyrocketing cultivation of opium poppies is producing drug gangs that could soon have an unshakable grip on the country.

In his inaugural speech, Karzai listed the fight against narcotics second to the need to bring security to a country still plagued by insurgents, and warned of a dangerous nexus between terrorism and drug trafficking.

"The relationship between terrorism and narcotics ... are a source of continued concern," he said. "A decisive victory over terrorism requires serious and con-

tinued cooperation at regional and international levels."

Karzai has yet to formally announce the details of his new anti-drug policy, but Western officials working on the plans say it will include stepped-up destruction of opium poppy crops and hundreds of millions of dollars to help farmers switch to legal alternatives.

Britain and the United States are also training Afghan forces to smash labs that process opium into heroin — Afghanistan is already the world's top supplier — and to arrest top smugglers for trial in special courts to be established within months.



President Hamid Karzai

## Appeals process starts for six in Cole bombing

The Associated Press

SAN'A, Yemen — The appeals trial of six men convicted in the 2002 bombing of the USS Cole opened Wednesday with prosecutors demanding the execution of two defendants who escaped the death penalty.

The first convictions in the al-Qaida attack that killed 17 American sailors were handed down in September, with four Yemenis sentenced to five to 10 years in prison. Two men — Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri, a Saudi suspected of being an associate of Osama bin Laden, and Yemeni militant Jamal al-Badawi — were sentenced to death. Al-Badawi shouted to Judge Saeed al-Qutiba

that the proceedings were a sham.

Prosecutors said defendants Fahd al-Qasab and Maamoun al-Msoua, who were sentenced to 10 and eight years respectively, should be executed because their collaboration in planning the attack has been proven. The prosecution added that Yemeni law stipulates that any crime that results in a death is punishable by death.

Al-Nashiri, who is believed to have masterminded the Cole attack and also thought to have directed the 1998 bombings at the U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, was the only defendant not present during the trial. He is in U.S. custody at an undisclosed location.

## Top Saudi cleric condemns attack on U.S. Consulate as 'grand sins'

BY DONNA ABU-NASR

The Associated Press

JIDDAH, Saudi Arabia — Saudi Arabia's highest religious authority on Wednesday condemned the shooting rampage that killed five people at a U.S. consulate as a great sin, and Saudi newspapers reported one of the dead assailants was a fired employee of the nation's religious police.

The U.S. Embassy in Riyadh and a consular office in eastern Saudi Arabia reopened Wednesday, two days after militants stormed into the inner courtyard of the U.S. Consulate in the port city of Jiddah, firing their guns, grabbing human shields and killing five people. U.S. officials warned more attacks were possible, and the injured spoke of assailants opening fire and hunting for victims with shouts of "Where are the Americans?"

Grand Mufti Abdul-Aziz al-Sheik said in a statement Wednesday that anyone who enters the kingdom with the permission of the leaders has a promise of security and should not be attacked.

"What happened on Monday regarding the storming of the U.S. Consulate in Jiddah, using weapons and explosives, killing innocent souls, petrifying secure ones, and undermining security in the kingdom are all forbidden acts and grand sins," al-Sheik said.

The Saudi daily newspaper Al-Watan, meanwhile, quoted a cousin of one of the gunmen ultimately killed in the assault as having been fired for misconduct from a job in Medina, Islam's second holiest city, with the Committee for the Propagation of Virtue and the Prevention of Vice. The group, less formally known as religious police, patrols Saudi cities for signs of religious misconduct — such as a slipping veil or any mixing of unrelated men and women.

Saad Mohammed al-Sumeyri told Al-Watan daily that his coun-



AP

Saudi Prince of Mecca, Abdul Majid bin Abdel Aziz, left, Monday visits wounded Yemeni worker Mowaffaq Ahmed at the King Fahd Hospital in Jiddah, Saudi Arabia, following a terrorist attack on the U.S. Consulate in Jiddah that left five people dead.

in, Fayed bin Awad al-Juhaini, a 28-year-old school dropout, was fired for his "bad behavior." It did not say what his job was, when he worked there or when or why he was fired.

Calls to the group's main office in Riyadh went unanswered Wednesday.

According to the newspaper report, al-Sumeyri said al-Juhaini had been arrested eight months ago before being released to his brother's custody.

Okaz daily newspaper, known for its close contact with the Saudi Interior Ministry, quoted an unidentified security official as saying al-Juhaini had been arrested before for his "extremist ideas."

Okaz also reported he was believed to be the leader of the Jiddah attack and had supervised a terror cell in the Red Sea port city.

Lying in hospital beds, wounded U.S. consulate workers on Tuesday provided new details about the attack. The five slain consulate employees were from Yemen, Sudan, the Philippines,

Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The director of King Fahd Hospital said a total of 10 wounded were brought there.

One of the wounded consulate employees, Salah Abdel Qawi Alyafae of Yemen, said the militants held people as human shields as Saudi forces rushed in and engaged in a fierce gunbattle.

"Each one of the terrorists took a group of us and they started shooting at the [Saudi] guards," he said. "And thanks to God, the Saudis did not shoot at them. They aimed at the terrorists."

Alyafae, who works as a dispatcher at the consulate, said he knelt down as the firing began, and then was shot. "I don't know whose bullet hit me," he said. "I was on the floor and my face was to the floor."

He said the attackers, fellow Muslims, shouted "God is great," as they rushed in. "These people are lost," he said sorrowfully, lying in his hospital bed with his left arm in a thick white cast.

"They don't know anything about their religion."

## Romanians want Marine returned

BUCHAREST, Romania — Dozens of protesters rallied Wednesday in front of the U.S. Embassy, calling on American authorities to send back to Romania a U.S. Marine who was allegedly involved in a car accident that killed a Romanian war star.

The Marine, who worked as a guard at the embassy and has diplomatic immunity from prosecution, left the country immediately after the accident Saturday. Teofil Peter, a 50-year-old body player with the popular Romanian rock band Compact, died in the crash after his taxi was hit by an embassy car allegedly driven by the Marine.

From wire reports

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## Gay policy rethought

**UT** WEST JORDAN — A principal who won't let gay couples to get permission slips from their parents before they can attend school dances promised to re-evaluate the policy after protesters held four days of protests.

Copper Hills High School Principal Tom Wornton issued the policy last month but agreed to revisit it. He said he saw the policy as a way to alert the parents to the dangers their children might face.

Wornton said the policy stemmed from students' concerns about potential harassment.

Wornton said he will make a decision on the policy in time for the spring.

## Fatal mining accident

**NV** ELY — Two men doing maintenance work on the shovel of a large excavator were killed when the shovel's lid fell and crushed them at an open-pit copper mine near this remote east-central Nevada town.

The owner of the Robinson Mine, Quadra Mining Ltd., and the workers' employer, Washington Group International, released no further details. The victims' names were not released.

"This is a close-knit community and something like this takes the heart out of everybody," said Martin Sorenson, chief of the Ruth Volunteer Fire Department.

The accident is under investigation by the U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration.

## Taser death

**LA** METAIRIE — A man sheriff's deputies had shot twice with a stun gun died, a day after he was pulled over for driving erratically, officials said.

Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office spokesman John Fortunato said Patrick Fleming died at a hospital. Officers had used a Taser stun gun on him twice when he fought with them — once after the traffic stop and then later at the jail.

Fortunato said Fleming, 35, was hospitalized after officers zapped him a second time and his breathing became labored.

A records check found that Fleming was wanted on a charge of criminal neglect of family. Fleming also had a history of resisting arrest and arrests for possession of coca leaves, crack cocaine and marijuana.

## Mandatory history?

**AK** ANCHORAGE — The state Board of Education will decide this week whether to require high school students to take a course in Alaska history before graduating. The Anchorage School District already requires its students take a state history course, while other districts offer some form of the class as an elective.

## Teacher charged

**MI** SOUTH HAVEN — A teacher and a 14-year-old former female student whom she accused of sexually assaulting participated in witchcraft together and "wed" in a pagan ritual, police said.

## AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Elizabeth Miklosovic, 36, a teacher at South Haven's Baseline Middle School, was arraigned on a charge of first-degree criminal sexual conduct.

If convicted, Miklosovic faces a maximum sentence of life in prison.

Miklosovic, a seventh-grade language arts teacher, lives with another woman and their adopted son, authorities said. She was placed on leave from her job.

## New town plan

**AZ** CASA GRANDE — A citizens group is proposing creation of Chisholm, a new city that would include hundreds of square miles of now-unincorporated areas of western Pinal County. Supporters say the new city is needed to help regulate and plan for growth as new housing developments are built, many for people working in the Phoenix metropolitan area.

## No more arguing

**NJ** TRENTON — Lawyers and federal judges in New Jersey are preparing to argue over new rules that would largely outlaw arguing.

The rules would apply to civil cases, where some judges of the U.S. District Court of New Jersey think the verbal exchanges are a waste of time.



## Here fishy, fishy

Mitch Simpson, a fisheries biologist with the Maine Atlantic Salmon Commission, hoists a salmon out of the Veazie Dam salmon trap on the Penobscot River.

If the changes are adopted, judges would not schedule argument days to debate motions, and the word "argument" could even be deleted from the rules. Instead, lawyers would be required to have a hearing request accepted by a judge.

Lawyers say it would set a perilous precedent.

All district judges will vote on the rules changes, with a majority needed for ratification. A vote has not yet been scheduled.

## Plane's water landing

**FL** AVENTURA — The crew of a decades-old cargo plane put the aircraft down in a lake in a Miami suburb after it developed engine trouble, avoiding high-rise buildings in the densely populated area, then were rescued from the floating fuselage.

The Miami Air Lease plane — with the misspelled message "Elect George W. Bush" running the length of the fuselage — had trouble with one of its two engines shortly after takeoff, said company office manager Alina Nodarse.

The pilots tried to return the Convair CV-340 to the Opa-locka airport about seven miles away but couldn't make it and splashed down in Maule Lake, said Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Chris White.

Crews surrounded the plane with an inflatable ducky to contain any leaking oil. Trapped air kept the plane afloat and emergency crews planned to add air bags for additional buoyancy.

## Flu shot 'fund-raiser'

**MN** MINNEAPOLIS — A woman who allegedly sold flu shots then lied when her credentials were questioned was giving people the real vaccine, and was trying to raise money for her daughter's school fund-raiser, her ex-husband said.

Michelle Lynn Tongerson, 33, was arrested on suspicion of theft and drug possession, said police Capt. Rich Stanek.

Chad Tongerson told the St. Paul Pioneer Press that faculty and students at Augsburg College in Minneapolis paid his ex-wife \$20 each for flu shots. He said she used the proceeds for an American Heart Association fund-raising drive at their 9-year-old daughter's school.

## Repair shop explodes

**WV** MATHIAS — A natural gas line to an automobile repair shop exploded, leveling the building, shattering windows for miles and sending as many as five people to hospitals.

No deaths were reported. The identities and conditions of the injured were unavailable. Although officials don't know what caused the explosion, they said a gas line feeding the shop had been leaking.

Part of state Route 259 remained closed and several hundred residents who live within a one-mile radius of the shop remained evacuated the next day, said Paul Lewis, Hardy County's emergency services director.

Temporary shelters were set up at the northeast community's high school and middle school. Telephone service to the area was knocked out by the blast.



## Scare tactics

Curtis Sharp, 8, tries to scare a duck into the water at a park in Lubbock, Texas.



## Move those feet

From left to right, Bremner Fontenile, Craig Martin and Solon Spruce perform during the Iroquois Social Dance Participatory Program at the Native American Winter Festival in Brighton, N.Y.



## Baby Claus

Monae Fickens, 4 months, dressed in a Santa suit, is held by her mother, Ashia Frasier, as Tony "The Peanut Man" Wright sings a song to sell peanuts during the 24th annual Charleston Christmas Parade in Charleston, S.C.



## Woman overboard!

Kristin McEnroe, 13, of Duluth, Minn., leaps off the plank during the National Walk-the-Plank Championship staged in Key West, Fla. The event was the last in a 10-day Pirates in Paradise festival that also included a sea battle featuring King West's historic tall ships, buccaners' living history encampments and the re-enactment of a pirate trial.



## Pampered pooches

Jean Jameson grooms Lexy, a Shih Tzu owned by Eileen Nichols of Mahwah, N.J., during The Bay Colony Cluster Dog Show in Boston, as another Shih Tzu named Callie, owned by Jennifer Miller of Wenonah, N.J., looks on at left.



## Yay, pretty colors

Sitting on the roof of a Battle Creek restaurant, Sponge Bob Squarepants seems excited watching balloons fly over during the 6th annual Holiday Balloonfest in Battle Creek, Mich.



## Fake explosion a blast to see

Congress Street in Tucson, Ariz., is set ablaze with an explosion during the filming of Stephen King's miniseries "Desperation" as hundreds gather to watch and feel the blast.

## Jury spares man's life

**KS** KANSAS CITY — A jury recommended a life sentence for a man convicted of killing five people in retaliation for the robbery and beating of his mother, sparing him the death penalty.

The same jury convicted Darrell Stallings two weeks before on five counts of capital murder and other charges in the June 2002 shooting rampage. Prosecutors said none of the victims was involved in the attack on Stallings' mother.

Stallings, 34, who is scheduled for sentencing in January, apologized to the families of each victim.

Another man, Errik Harris, 28, is also charged in the deaths, but his trial date has not been set.

## Costco theft charges

**NH** NASHUA — An 18-year-old Massachusetts man faces felony theft charges for allegedly emptying several large cereal boxes at a Costco, filling the boxes with electronic equipment and paying the clerk only for the cereal.

Nashua police arrested Christopher Booz of Dracut after he and a juvenile were detained by store security.

Police said Booz left the store with a digital camera, GPS system and a computer hard drive worth \$800 inside the resealed cereal boxes.

## School renovations

**VA** EMPORIA — A group of citizens has raised about \$20,000 to renovate a former segregated school for blacks. Citizens United to Preserve the Greensville Training School has received approval of preliminary plans for the school. The group is working with a class of architecture students from the University of Virginia. It hopes the county will donate the school and five acres around it.

## Bladder patrol

**PA** PITTSBURGH — Officers Matt Turko and Tom Weger are on Pittsburgh's bladder beat.

Since November 2003, Turko and Weger have patrolled the city's South Side, one of the country's oldest Victorian-era shopping districts in the country by day — but one of the city's best places to drink at night. They bust bladder-heavy revelers looking for relief in alleys, the sides of houses and in dark corners.

Turko and Weger have handed out more than 220 citations for public indecency. Emptying your bladder in the wrong place can also empty your wallet. Each ticket comes with a \$300 fine.

## Chancellor resigns

**MO** KANSAS CITY — The chancellor of the University of Missouri-Kansas City resigned after clashing with faculty over such issues as a \$500,000 consulting fee she paid to a friend.

Martha Gilliland, 60, said she was stepping down so the school can "move forward and achieve great progress without distraction." She will keep her tenured

position as a professor in the university's school of engineering.

Last month, faculty groups in arts and sciences, law, business and biology cast no-confidence votes in Gilliland, who took the post four years ago.

## D.C. mayor heads league

**DC** WASHINGTON — Washington Mayor Anthony Williams won election as president of the National League of Cities, becoming the first D.C. mayor to assume the top post in a national organization of municipal officials.

The league counts more than 18,000 cities and towns among its members and lobbies for their interests on Capitol Hill and throughout the federal government.

At his swearing-in, Williams promised to pursue "an advocacy agenda" focused on homeland security, education, public safety and affordable housing.

## Concerns cancel tour

**UT** SALT LAKE CITY — The Mormon Tabernacle Choir has canceled its planned tour of northern Europe next year because of concerns about terrorism, and the choir will instead tour the Northwest.

The 360-voice choir was scheduled to make a summer tour by ship of Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Finland.

However, Gordon B. Hinckley, president of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, decided the trip would make the group an easy target for terrorists.

The tour was first changed to England, Scotland and Wales, with a stopover in Paris. But that, too, was deemed too dangerous and now the choir will visit cities in northern California, Oregon, Washington, Nevada and Idaho.

## Living at work

**OR** HALSEY — Some workers seem to live at the office, but the principal at Central Linn High School really does.

Michael Bremont, 31, routinely spends 30 hours a week on the job, arriving well before school starts each morning and leaving long after the final bell.

Frustrated by how little he was seeing his family, Bremont approached his district superintendent last year with an unusual request. He wanted to live in an unused building on campus.

District officials loved the idea and spent \$2,000 renovating the place. Bremont pays \$500 a month in rent, plus his electricity costs, so the district has made back what it spent.

"It's been really wonderful," he said.

## Union strike averted

**CT** HARTFORD — Members of the machinists' union at jet-engine maker Pratt & Whitney voted overwhelmingly against going on strike. Under the negotiating rules, rejection of a strike means the latest three-year contract proposal takes effect. It includes a 3.5 percent raise in the first year and 3 percent raises in the second and third years as well as a \$1,500 signing bonus per worker.

Stories and photos from wire services

# YOUR MONEY

## Catalogs driving in age of Internet

BY DAVID SHARP  
The Associated Press

FREEPOT, Maine — L.L. Bean projects that its online sales will overtake its catalog business within two years, but don't expect any trees to be spared in the process.

The company has no plans to scale back its mailings of 200 catalog a year. Nor will it alter any other mail-order companies that are flooding customers' mail boxes this holiday season — the number of catalogs shipped to homes and businesses has held steady despite online competition, and actually grew last year.

"People who were caught up in Web mania thought it would supplant the catalog," said Madison Riley of Kurt Salmon Associates, a retail consulting firm. "That has not come true, and I don't think it will ever come true."

In what's known as a multi-channel retailing world, catalogs are an important marketing tool for driving shoppers to other channels.

Big retailers like L.L. Bean are active in at least three channels: stores, e-commerce and catalogs.

It was just five or six years ago that some analysts were predicting the Internet would render catalogs obsolete.

### Catalogs endure

Many retailers are active in at least three channels — stores, e-commerce and catalogs. In the growing age of the Web, catalog sales have survived even as Internet sales increase.

■ Projected figures

SOURCE: Direct Marketing Association

But catalogs survived even as Internet sales have grown at a faster pace. Internet sales are projected to rise 27 percent to \$542 billion this year while catalog sales will grow 6.7 percent to \$143 billion, said Amy Blankenship of the Direct Marketing Association, a New York-based trade group.

L.L. Bean once shared the view that online sales would lessen its reliance on printed catalogs, but the company found that the two were intertwined, with catalogs giving a significant boost to Web site traffic and shoppers freely switching between the channels, said Steve Fuller, Bean's marketing chief.

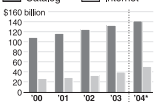
"One of the mistakes people made was in thinking of the channels as discrete, but it's the same households. Some days they call, some days they order from the Web site, some days they drive to the store," he said.

Sales dropped when Lands' End cut back on the catalogs it sent out in 1999, and the company then decided to boost mailings the following year, according to the Print E-Business Report published by the Printing Industries of America.

End spokesman declined to release catalog numbers. The E-Business Report says Lands' End distributed 270 million last year.

### Catalog and Internet sales revenues

■ Catalog ■ Internet



Catalog companies generally shipped out the same number of catalogs from 2000-02 despite three postal increases, the numbers bumped upward last year to 17.5 billion. A similar number is expected to be sent this year, Blankenship said.

Retailers have become smarter about the way they use catalogs, which are expensive to produce and mail. Companies including Lands' End and L.L. Bean have discovered that their catalogs motivate shoppers to go to Web sites or visit stores — or pick up the phone, said Riley, who is based in Boston.

And if a catalog's job is to provide inspiration instead of a comprehensive listing of goods, then the catalogs can be smaller, offering a cost savings to retailers, he said.

Howard Davidowitz of Davidowitz & Associates Inc. in New York said the Internet can't replace catalogs as a marketing tool. And he said there's room for growth in catalog sales down the road.

With such a variety of catalogs, individual companies will have to adjust their channels differently to maximize sales.

"To survive, all of these three channels are going to have to remain at different levels of re-invention. That's the constant."

The constant in all three channels is change," he said.

# Transferring credit card balances trick

BY HELEN HUNTLEY  
St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times

Another set of credit card "convenience" checks came in the mail the other day. The offer from Capital One sounded tempting: Use the checks to pay off other loan balances and pay just 2.99 percent annual interest.

It's better, of course, to pay balances in full every month and avoid interest charges altogether. But for anyone carrying a balance on a credit card, transfer offers can be very appealing. A lower interest rate gives you the ability to pay off debts more quickly and improve your credit profile, assuming you don't charge up new balances on your other cards.

However, the details make a big difference. You probably should not transfer a balance unless you are sure that all of the following will apply:

■ The great rate will be in effect until the balance is paid off in its entirety.

■ There are no transfer fees. The rate is generally one little or nothing on the card that will be on the receiving end of the transfer.

■ You are willing to stop using the card for new purchases.

The first two issues are easy to grasp. An introductory rate that applies for just a few months probably isn't worth the bother. And it is important to read the fine print so you know what fees are involved and under what conditions

your rate could be increased. If a late payment would do it, you'd better be sure that you'll be able to make payments on time.

The third and fourth points are easier to overlook and can lead to unpleasant surprises. If you take advantage of a balance transfer offer, most likely the debt on your credit card will no longer be just one big debt. Instead it will be divided into at least two categories, the transferred balance and the rest of your debt. Cash advances may not be in a third category.

The division matters because most likely a different interest rate will apply to each category. When you send payments, they typically will be applied first to the interest due and then to reduction of principal on the balance with the lowest interest rate.

Obviously that method works to the advantage of the bank rather than the customer.

If I charge \$500 in new purchases and then send in a \$500 payment, I might think I've paid for my new purchases in full. However, if I have a card with a transferred balance at a low rate, the payment will be applied to that balance and whatever I owe the other card will increase. I've lost my key left over, not one dime, but I've got to pay off my new purchases.

That's not to say a balance transfer is never a good idea. But it is one of those decisions that should be carefully researched before signing your name to the checks.

# Gifts and Sensibility

## Money tip of the day

## Deducting charitable gifts

CBS MarketWatch

NEW YORK — Containers for charitable contributions are everywhere during the holiday season: buckets for bell ringers on the sidewalk, boxes for toys in the workplace and baskets for food donations at the supermarket.

Donating new and used items to charity can be beneficial for your taxes, as well as helpful for people in need. Before you donate, remember these simple tips:

■ Give wisely. Your total charitable donations, including cash and noncash items, are limited to 50 percent of your adjusted gross income. Deductions are valid only for gifts to a recognized charity, meaning it has IRS approval to register as a tax-exempt organization. Before you donate, check out the charity and www.charitynavigator.org.

■ Groups only. Also can not deduct items given to an individual, no matter how needy that person may be.

■ Keep a list of items you donate. ■ Be specific — include brand, make/model, size, etc. Note how much you originally

paid for the item and its current market value. You can find out how much it would be worth now by scouring thrift stores or online Web sites.

■ Assess the value. Before you donate, get professional appraisals for valuable items such as jewelry, paintings or furniture. To assess the value of other items, you may try Turbo Tax's "It's Deductible" program at [www.it'sdeductible.com](http://www.it'sdeductible.com). The program helps you assess the values of all your donated items. Keep all receipts for appraisals — you can deduct them separately — as part of your miscellaneous itemized deductions.

■ Get documentation. Even noncash donations require a receipt to be deductible. If you've already made noncash donations and didn't get a receipt, you might try taking the deduction anyway. Just don't expect to keep it if you do get audited. If you incurred other costs as a result of making the donation, such as packing or shipping the items, save those receipts separately. They can be included with your miscellaneous itemized deductions.

TUESDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY									
INDEXES									
High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low
18,741.80	18,740.40	Dow Jones Industrials	18,740.40	18,740.40	18,740.40	18,740.40	18,740.40	18,740.40	18,740.40
3,748.08	2,743.46	How Jones Transportation	3,748.08	2,743.46	3,748.08	2,743.46	3,748.08	2,743.46	3,748.08
35.52	25.47	Dow Jones Utilities	35.52	25.47	35.52	25.47	35.52	25.47	35.52
6,687.22	6,687.22	NYSE Composite	6,687.22	6,687.22	6,687.22	6,687.22	6,687.22	6,687.22	6,687.22
1,185.38	1,185.38	Amex Index	1,185.38	1,185.38	1,185.38	1,185.38	1,185.38	1,185.38	1,185.38
2,154.64	2,154.64	Nasdaq Composite	2,154.64	2,154.64	2,154.64	2,154.64	2,154.64	2,154.64	2,154.64
1,197.40	1,197.40	S&P 500	1,197.40	1,197.40	1,197.40	1,197.40	1,197.40	1,197.40	1,197.40
548.29	548.29	S&P MidCap	548.29	548.29	548.29	548.29	548.29	548.29	548.29
644.84	644.84	Russell 2000	644.84	644.84	644.84	644.84	644.84	644.84	644.84
11,784.16	11,784.16	DJ Wilshire 5000	11,784.16	11,784.16	11,784.16	11,784.16	11,784.16	11,784.16	11,784.16

NYSE				AMEX				NASDAQ			
Most Active (\$1 or more)				Most Active (\$1 or more)				Most Active (\$1 or more)			
Name	Vol	Net	Chg	Name	Vol	Net	Chg	Name	Vol	Net	Chg
Amgen	660,000	3.78	+90	SPR	480,000	13.08	-11	Smith	400,000	13.08	-11
Novartis	450,000	27.29	+91	Sealed	300,000	13.08	-11	Novartis	400,000	13.08	-11
Lucraft	250,000	1.73	+90	Rang	140,000	4.84	+156	Smith	400,000	13.08	-11
North	210,000	1.73	+90	Whelan	70,000	2.82	-3	Novartis	400,000	13.08	-11
AMD	227,000	23.50	-13	Graham	70,000	13.08	-11	Novartis	400,000	13.08	-11
Intel	180,000	35.25	-10	Whelan	70,000	2.82	-3	Novartis	400,000	13.08	-11
Motors	157,000	18.40	-30	Graham	70,000	13.08	-11	Novartis	400,000	13.08	-11
Merck	140,000	4.41	+86	Whelan	70,000	2.82	-3	Novartis	400,000	13.08	-11
EMC Corp	130,000	14.29	-30	SP	340,000	13.08	-11	Novartis	400,000	13.08	-11
Lincoln	130,000	14.29	-30	SP	340,000	13.08	-11	Novartis	400,000	13.08	-11

KEY DEFENSE STOCKS									
Name	Vol	Net	Vol	Net	Vol	Net	Vol	Net	Vol
Adiant	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4	Adiant	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4
Armed	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4	Armed	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4
Armed	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4	Armed	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4
Armed	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4	Armed	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4
Armed	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4	Armed	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4
Armed	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4	Armed	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4
Armed	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4	Armed	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4
Armed	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4	Armed	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4
Armed	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4	Armed	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4

### EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates		\$1/\$2742
Burkina Faso	100	1,316.86
Burkina Faso (Dec. 9)	100	1,316.86
South Korean won (Dec. 8)	1,000	1,017.00
Commercial rates		\$1/\$7099
Bahrain (Dinar)	100	1,316.86
Canada (Dollar)	100	1,316.86
Denmark (Krone)	100	1,316.86
Egypt (Pound)	100	1,316.86
Euro (Euro)	100	1,316.86
Hong Kong (Dollar)	100	1,316.86
Hungary (Forint)	100	1,316.86
India (Rupee)	100	1,316.86
Israel (Shekel)	100	1,316.86
Japan (Yen)	100	1,316.86
Kuwait (Dinar)	100	1,316.86
Malaysia (Ringgit)	100	1,316.86
Philippines (Peso)	100	1,316.86
Singapore (Dollar)	100	1,316.86
Switzerland (Franc)	100	1,316.86
Turkey (Lira)	100	1,316.86

Japan (Yen)	102.84
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.29461
Norway (Krone)	5.77
Philippines (Peso)	56.02
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	1.59
Singapore (Dollar)	1.6346
South Korea (Won)	1,041.80
Switzerland (Franc)	1.09
Thailand (Baht)	39.20
Turkey (Lira)	1,406,500.00

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military bank.)

KEY MUTUAL FUNDS									
Name	Vol	Net	Vol	Net	Vol	Net	Vol	Net	Vol
Fidelity Invest: Global	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4	Fidelity Invest: Global	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4
Fidelity Invest: Growth	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4	Fidelity Invest: Growth	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4
Fidelity Invest: Stock	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4	Fidelity Invest: Stock	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4
Fidelity Invest: Bond	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4	Fidelity Invest: Bond	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4
Fidelity Invest: Divd	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4	Fidelity Invest: Divd	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4
Fidelity Invest: Int'l	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4	Fidelity Invest: Int'l	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4
Fidelity Invest: Mkt	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4	Fidelity Invest: Mkt	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4
Fidelity Invest: S&P 500	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4	Fidelity Invest: S&P 500	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4
Fidelity Invest: Divd	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4	Fidelity Invest: Divd	100,000	10.52	-13	+15.4

### PRECIOUS METALS

London close		\$433.80
Gold	100	1,316.86
Silver	100	1,316.86
Palladium	100	1,316.86
Platinum	100	1,316.86

### INTEREST RATES

Prime rate		5.50
3-month Treasury bill	100	1,316.86
6-month Treasury bill	100	1,316.86
1-year Treasury bill	100	1,316.86
3-year Treasury bill	100	1,316.86
5-year Treasury bill	100	1,316.86
10-year Treasury bill	100	1,316.86
30-year Treasury bill	100	1,316.86



# Stripes Travel



Los Angeles Times photo

This row of houses, known as the 12 Apostles of Catalooch, was built for people removed from their land to make room for sheep in the 19th century on the Isle of Arran, Scotland.

## Taste Scotland's spirits

### Island tour is as fun as a barrel of whiskey

BY BEVERLY BEYETTE  
Los Angeles Times

**L**eaving into a huge wooden fermentation tank, I inhaled the yeasty aroma of its contents. "Don't sniff too heavily," Ardbeg Distillery Manager Stuart Thomson told me. "It'll take your breath away."

Ardbeg is on Islay (eye-la), southernmost of the Inner Hebrides, off western Scotland. For devotees of single malt whiskey — people who utter brand names such as Laphroig reverently — Islay and neighboring islands Jura and Arran are paradise found. Among them, they have nine distilleries, one of Scotland's major concentrations.

These single malt labels are not as familiar to most Americans as those of blended Scotch whiskeys, but their whiskeys go into such blends as Johnnie Walker, Teacher's, Cutty Sark, Cluny and Ballantine's.

Although the more intensely flavored single malts are made only from malted barley, the

blends are made from barley, malted barley and other cereals.

In mid-July, I bypassed the more frequently visited mainland whiskey trails of Scotland and distillery-hopped on the three islands.

Each, I found, has its own personality. Arran, with its miles of rugged coastline and lush interiors, is the prettiest and the most visitor-oriented. Islay is flatter, has acres of peat and is synonymous with its seven distilleries. Jura is rural and sparsely populated.

My trip began in Glasgow, where I picked up a rental car and drove two hours west to Ardrossan to catch the Caledonian MacBrayne car ferry for the short crossing to Arran. The ferry is pricey, but I saved about \$85 by buying a "hopscoth ticket" to Arran, the Kintyre Peninsula, Islay and back for about \$358.

Near Lochranza on Arran's coast, I visited Scotland's newest distillery, Isle of Arran. It opened in 1995.

Older island distilleries sit



Barrels of whiskey age at the Bruichladdich Distillery on the Isle of Islay. Bruichladdich calls itself the Whiskey of Mass Distinction.

seaside — as was vital when all cargo was carried by ship — but Isle of Arran occupies a bucolic site in the shadow of the Hill of the Eagle's Nest.

The tour — led by Terry, a jolly fellow in plaid pants — was my introduction to the language of whiskey-making. I heard, as I would often in the next few days, that good water makes good whiskey. Isle of Arran's water comes pure from a stream in nearby hills.

Terry poured samples and cautioned visitors, "Wee sips; no big gulps."

At tour's end, I caught up with white-haired, rosy-cheeked Gordon Mitchell, whose baseball cap identified him as the Arran malt master.

He has been a whiskey maker for 40 of his 60-plus years, "starting with cleaning the floor and working my way up."

By now, he says, he can tell a good whiskey by sniffing, a tal-

ent known as "nosing."

"A bad one might smell like sweaty socks," he said.

He takes his whiskey "neat, with a little water after" — and only on weekends, mind you.

Soon, I was off by ferry from Lochranza to the Kintyre Peninsula for an overnight before catching another ferry to Islay (population 3,300). Map in hand, I set out from Bowmore, the island capital, toward Port Askaig, soon spotting the turnoff to Caol Ila (cul-ill-a).

After a white-knuckle mile on a "single track" road — a narrow, twisting single-lane with two-way traffic — I spotted the distillery at shore's edge.

It was "silent season" at Caol Ila — the six weeks when the plant shuts down for maintenance — but Neil Ferguson, an Islay native (or heath, as the people of Islay call themselves) was happy to show me around.

"I learned whiskey-making the old way," said Ferguson, who has worked at the distillery for 35 years. A still house had floor-to-ceiling windows affording a stunning view of the sound; in front of them stood six onion-shaped copper stills, almost two stories high. That still shape affects a whiskey's taste, Ferguson told me.

SEE WHISKEY, PAGE 22



# Christmas Markets

COMPILED BY  
KAREN BRADBURY

Stars and Stripes

Information provided primarily by  
tourist boards.

## AUSTRIA

**www.austria-tourism.at**

**BURGENLAND REGION**

**Brillenbrunn:** Dec. 17-19

**Eisenstadt:** through Dec. 24

**Lockenhaus:** through Dec. 12

**Purbach:** Fri., Sat. and Sun

**CARINTHIA REGION**

**Gmünd:** through Dec. 24

**Klagenfurt:** through Dec. 24

**Spittal:** through Dec. 24

**Velden:** through Dec. 21

**Villach:** through Dec. 24

**UPPER AUSTRIA REGION**

**Lin:** through Dec. 24

**Steyr:** Advent weekends

**Unterwiesentbach:** Advent

weekends

**Wolfgangsee:** through Dec. 19

**SALZBURGERLAND**

**Salzburg:** through Dec. 24 in city

center and Mirabell Square

**Oberndorf:** through Dec. 31

**St Leonhard near Grödig:** Satur-

days and Sundays through Dec. 19

**Koppl-Guggenthal:** Saturdays and

Sundays through Dec. 19

**TYROLIA**

**Kornberg-Castell-Feldbach:**

through Dec. 23

**Mariazell:** through Dec. 19

**Afenz-Resort Area:** through Dec.

24

**Graz:** through Dec. 24

**TYROL**

**Innsbruck:** Dec. 19-24

**Seefeld:** through Dec. 24

**Rattenberg:** Dec. 12 and 18

**Mayrhofen:** Dec. 17-19

**Hall in Tyrol:** through Dec. 24

**Imst:** through Dec. 23

**Kufstein:** Advent weekends

**Plangross St. Leonhard:**

through Dec. 24

**VORARLBERG REGION**

**Dornbirn:** through Dec. 23

**Schwarzenberg:** through Dec. 19

**Feldkirch:** through Dec. 24

**Dornbirn:** through Dec. 23

**VIENNA**

**Vienna Rathaus Park:** through

Dec. 24

**Spittelberg:** through Dec. 23

**Schönbrunn:** through Dec. 26

**Freyung:** through Dec. 23

## BELGIUM

**www.visitbelgium.com**

**Antwerp:** Dec. 10-23

**Brussels:** Marche aux Poissons

and Place St. Catherine, through

Jan. 2

**Brugge:** through Jan. 2

**Ghent:** Dec. 10-19

**Leuven:** through Dec. 12

**Liège:** through Dec. 30

**Mechelen:** Dec. 17-19

**Tubize:** Dec. 11-19

**SEE MARKETS, PAGE 24**



PHOTOS BY LORI ANN MARTIN/Special to Stars and Stripes

The magnificent cathedral at Speyer, Germany, offers a backdrop to the town's small Christmas market. The market starts near the cathedral and stretches along a pedestrian strip leading through the shopping area.

## German markets are sure to please

BY LORI ANN MARTIN

Stripes Travel reader

**T**he magic of Germany's Christmas markets has appealed to me for years. I longed to visit some, but they were always too far from my assignments in Sicily, England and now Rota, Spain.

But last December, I decided to make the trip.

I began with some research. The Germany Tourism Web site [www.germany-tourism.de](http://www.germany-tourism.de) listed at least 100 Christmas markets. I picked five — Rothenburg, Ridesheim, Nuremberg, Heidelberg, Trier — and then stumbled on two more — Speyer and Bernkastel-Kues.

The last three are less known than some of the bigger ones, but no less charming. As the oldest town in Germany, Trier has history along with a wonderful setting for its market. Two settings actually, both within sight of the other.

The medieval Hauptmarkt square is surrounded by colorful gabled buildings from the 14th to the 17th centuries, and was filled with stalls from end to end. Connected by a short side road, the other *Weihnachten Markt* is in Cathedral Square, adjacent to the oldest cathedral in Germany and the adjoining Liebfrauenkirche — or Church of Our Lady, the first Gothic-style church in the country.

A merry-go-round twirled at both sites, while a giant Christmas pyramid turned atop a booth full of wooden decorations in Cathedral Square.

Smaller towns may not advertise their markets, but are cozy and less crowded. A side trip from Trier landed me at the market at the small town of Bernkastel-Kues (on the "Bernkastel" side of the river). It was scattered throughout the narrow streets of half-timbered buildings.



Bernkastel-Kues' Christmas market is scattered through the old town's narrow streets lined with half-timbered buildings.

I discovered Speyer's market while making a visit to see its magnificent Romanesque Cathedral.

All the markets have some things in common. They combine the natural beauty and historic treasures of their towns with the relaxed pace and joyful atmosphere of the holidays.

The markets have a festive county fair atmosphere. Brightly decorated stalls squeeze side-by-side down wide rows, all strung with bright holiday lights. Vendors with toys, jewelry, beautiful linens, hand-painted glass ornaments and all sorts of knickknacks fill the small wooden huts.



Apples covered with chocolate and shaped like little bears look almost too good to eat at the Christmas market in Trier.

Families wander about with children of all ages, maneuvering strollers through the crowd.

And then there is the food. Enticing smells drift over the crisp winter air, leading the way to the market location almost before it can be seen. Fried doughnuts or crepes with sweet toppings, sausages and steak grilling with fried onions, baguettes with sandwich meats and roasting chestnuts were just a few of the mouth-watering treats. Other carnival favorites found at the markets included candied, caramel and chocolate-covered apples and spiced-decorated cookies, washed down with a warm cup of *Glühwein*, spiced wine, in a commemorative cup.

A special treat in Bernkastel-Kues was the warm eggnog with an extra kick.

With dozens of market cities to visit, it's easy to find a German Christmas market to get you in the holiday spirit and take the winter chill off.

And no matter where you're coming from, it is definitely worth the trip.

Lori Ann Martin is a lieutenant commander stationed at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Rota, Spain. E-mail her at [ladyann37@hotmail.com](mailto:ladyann37@hotmail.com).

## MARKETS, FROM PAGE 23

## CZECH REPUBLIC

www.visitczech.cz

Prague: through Jan. 6

## DENMARK

www.visitdenmark.com

Aarhus: Christmas in Old Town, through Dec. 23

Copenhagen: Tivoli Gardens through Dec. 23

Odense: Dec. 11-12

## England

www.visitbritain.com

Bath: through Dec. 12

Warwick Castle: Dec. 11-Jan. 3  
Medieval Fair. (Admission fee.)

## ESTONIA

www.visitestonia.com

Tallinn: through Dec. 26, Raekoja plats

Pärnu: Raehov Dec. 11 and 18

## FRANCE

www.franceguide.com

Aix en Provence: through Dec. 31

Amiens: through Dec. 24

Angers: through Dec. 24

Besancon: Dec. 11-12

Boulogne-sur-Mer: Dec. 11-12

Brest: through Dec. 24

Caen: through Dec. 24

Calais: Parade Dec. 12

Chambery: through Dec. 24

Clermont-Ferrand: through Dec. 26

Colmar: through Dec. 24

Dax: Dec. 11-12 and 18-19

Dijon: through Dec. 14

Gap: Dec. 11-24

Grenoble: through Dec. 24

Kaysersberg: through Dec. 23, Fri., Sat. and Sun. only

La Ferte St. Aubin: throughout Dec.

Laon: through Dec. 12

Le Puy en Velay: Dec. 11-24

Lille: through Dec. 29

Lorraine: through Dec. 31

Lyon: through Dec. 24

Marseille: through Dec. 24

Metz: through Dec. 24

Montbéliard: through Dec. 24

Montélimar: Dec. 18-24

Mulhouse: through Dec. 29

Münster: Dec. 11-12, 16-19

Nancy: through Dec. 24

Nantes: through Dec. 24

Nice: Dec. 10-Jan. 2

Reims: Christmas village, through Dec. 24

Rennes: through Dec. 24

Riquewihr: through Dec. 19

Rouern: through Dec. 28

Sarreguemines: through Dec. 24

Saverne: through Dec. 24

Selestat: through Dec. 24

Strasbourg: through Dec. 31

Toulouse: through December

Troyes: Dec. 11-31

## GERMANY

www.germany-tourism.de

Aachen: through Dec. 20

Amberg: through Dec. 23

## Christmas Markets

Annaberg: through Dec. 19

Ansbach: through Dec. 24

Aschaffenburg: through Dec. 22

Augsburg: through Dec. 24

Baden-Baden: through Dec. 21

Bad Mergentheim: Dec. 16-19

Bad Münster: through Dec. 12, Saturdays and Sundays

Bad Tölz: through Dec. 24

Bad Wimpfen: through Dec. 14, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays

Bamberg: through Dec. 23

Bayreuth: through Dec. 23

Berlin: Markets throughout the city, including: Center, through Dec. 24; Charlottenburg-Wilmersdorf, through Dec. 26; Marzahn-Hellersdorf, through Dec. 24; Parkow, through Dec. 19; Reinickendorf, through Dec. 24; Spandau, through Dec. 23; Treptow-Köpenick, Dec. 10-19

Bernkastel-Kues: through Dec. 22

Bonn: through Dec. 23

Braunschweig: through Dec. 28

Bremen: through Dec. 23

Büdingen: Dec. 10-12

Chemnitz: through Dec. 21

Cochem: through Dec. 19

Cologne: Markets throughout city, including: Rhelmpromenade, through Dec. 21; Chocolate museum, through Dec. 23 by cathedral, through Dec. 23

Darmstadt: through Dec. 23

Deidesheim: through Dec. 19, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays

Dinkelsbühl: through Dec. 21

Dortmund: through Dec. 23

Dresden: through Dec. 24

Düsseldorf: through Dec. 23

Erfurt: through Dec. 22

Essen: through Dec. 23

Esslingen: through Dec. 22

Feuchtwangen: through Dec. 18

Frankfurt: through Dec. 22

Freiburg im Breisgau: through Dec. 23

Freudenstadt: through Dec. 12

Fulda: through Dec. 20

Giessen: through Dec. 20

Hamburg: through Dec. 23

Hanau: through Dec. 23

Heidelberg: through Dec. 22

Heilbronn: through Dec. 22

Kaiserslautern: through Dec. 22

Karlsruhe: through Dec. 23

Kirchheim unter Teck: through Dec. 19

Koblenz: through Dec. 22

Ladenburg: Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through Dec. 19

Landsberg am Lech: through Dec. 12

Leipzig: through Dec. 22

Ludwigsburg: through Dec. 20

Magdeburg: through Dec. 23

Mainz: through Dec. 23

Mannheim: through Dec. 23

Memmingen: through Dec. 22

Michelstadt: through Dec. 19

Mittenberg: Dec. 10-12 and 17-19

Münch: through Dec. 24, markets throughout the city

Nördlingen: through Dec. 23

Nuremberg: through Dec. 24

Regensburg an der Donau: through Dec. 23

Regensburg: through Dec. 19

Rosenheim: through Dec. 23

Rostock: through Dec. 22

Rothenburg ob der Tauber:

through Dec. 22

Rüdesheim am Rhein: through Dec. 19, Wednesdays and Sundays

Saarbrücken: through Dec. 22

Schweinfurt: through Dec. 22

Speyer: through Dec. 22

Straubing an der Donau: through Dec. 23

Stuttgart: through Dec. 23

Taubertschloßheim: Dec. 10-12, 17-19

Trier: through Dec. 22

Ulm: through Dec. 22

Wiesbaden: through Dec. 23

Wolffenbüttel: through Dec. 22

Würzburg: through Dec. 23

## ITALY

www.italiantourism.com

Bolzano: through Dec. 23

Bressanone: through Jan. 8

Merano: through Jan. 7

Rome: through Jan. 6, Piazza Navona.

Venice: through Dec. 24, Santo Stefano Square

## LUXEMBOURG

www.luxembourg-city.lu

Luxembourg City: through Dec. 24, Place d'Armes

Esch-sur-Alzette: through Dec. 24, Place de la Résistance

Vianden: Dec. 18-19 Medieval Christmas Market at the castle

## NORWAY

www.norskfolkemuseum.no

Bygdøy: Dec. 12 and 19

## THE NETHERLANDS

www.holland.com

Arnhem: Dec. 11-12, Rijnhal

Deventer: Dec. 18-19

Maastricht: through Dec. 31

Valkeberg Castle: through Dec. 21

## POLAND

Web site: www.polska-be.com

Krakow: through December

## SWEDEN

www.visit-sweden.com

Stockholm: through Dec. 22, Gamla Stan

Skansen: Dec. 13-14

## SWITZERLAND

www.myswitzerland.com

Basel: through Dec. 23

Bern: through Dec. 24

Fribourg: through Dec. 24

Geneva: through Dec. 24

Montreux: through Dec. 23

Winterthur: through Dec. 22

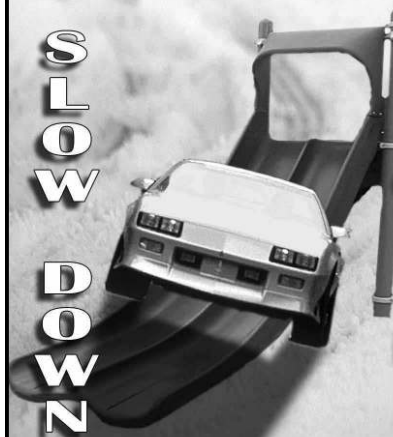
Zug: through Dec. 12

Zurich: through Dec. 24

This is fun at the park,  
not so fun on the road.

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# Check

BY ROGER PETTERSON

*The Associated Press*

Croatia is a corner of Europe on the shores of the sunny Adriatic that hasn't yet become overrun by other American tourists. There's a host of Web sites working to entice you into visiting, and a surprising number have versions in English.

Get acquainted with the help of the Croatian National Tourist Board — [www.croatia.hr](http://www.croatia.hr) — by clicking on English and then on "Tourism Plus" to learn about activities from scuba diving to mountain climbing and skiing. In many cases, you'll find Web links to other informative Web sites.

Click on "Destinations" to reach the tourist board's interactive map. Try the "Dalmatia-Zadar" region and check out towns such as Ugljan, where you can relax on sandy beaches, or centrally located Zadar. Along with brief descriptions of the towns you get a pronunciation guide, and many have a small photo gallery.

Click on "About Croatia" for information on history, food and the Adriatic, then go to "Arrival" to see about airlines that fly to Croatia.

You won't need a visa, according to the Croatian information page at the U.S. Department of State — <http://travel.state.gov/travel/croatia.html> — but be sure to read "Safety and Security." Elsewhere in Washington, the Croatian Embassy — [www.croatiaemb.org](http://www.croatiaemb.org) — can help you with facts and figures, and useful Web links.

Try out some of the food before you go. Balkan Web — [www.balkanweb.com/kroacia/recipes.htm](http://www.balkanweb.com/kroacia/recipes.htm) — has recipes in English.

Find out about [www.culture.hr](http://www.culture.hr) on jazz festivals. Then soak up the Museums on the [4-istov.html](http://4-istov.html) history, archaeology, Croatia's w



Stars and Stripes

From beautiful  
beaches to  
marvelous meals,  
the Web offers a  
peek at pleasures  
awaiting you in  
this Balkan nation

Croatia's coastline offers many bays, coves and sandy and gravel beaches, making it a destination for relaxation, bathing, sun tanning, sailing, water sports and fishing.



Above: Pula's Roman amphitheater was built between 100 and 200 A.D. as the center of Roman rule, called Pietas Julia. Right: Croatian cuisine is a combination of influence on the mainland and the Mediterranean along the coast. Coastal towns with small restaurants known as "konoba" (or cellars) offering a variety of seafood.

# out Croatia

at festivals by going to Culturenet —  
[thr/v1/english/index.asp](http://thr/v1/english/index.asp) — which has info  
 (late March in Zagreb) and student theater.  
 art and history with the help of Croatian  
 e Internet — [www.mdc.hr/www-MDC-eng/](http://www.mdc.hr/www-MDC-eng/)  
 — which has links to institutions on local  
 ology, art and more.

temmost section is Istra — [www.istra.com](http://www.istra.com)  
 — a peninsula at the northern end of the  
 Adriatic. Tour winemaking regions, go  
 sailing, venture in the Baredine Cave, or  
 just enjoy the scenery. Look under "Istra  
 Info" for the link to a photo album.

Explore the islands and villages along  
 the Dalmatian coast by going to Dalmat-  
 ian Net — [www.dalmatian.net](http://www.dalmatian.net) — and  
 clicking on "Destinations" to reach an  
 interactive map. They'll also help you  
 find places to stay or charter a boat.

Brac Island has the resort town of Bol  
 — [www.bol.hr](http://www.bol.hr) — and sandy beaches.  
 Click into "Excursions" to learn about  
 the 16th century monastery, caves and  
 other island communities.

In central or Continental Croatia, the  
 capital city of Zagreb —  
[www.zagreb-touristinfo.hr](http://www.zagreb-touristinfo.hr) — offers  
 history, culture and shopping. Learn  
 more about Continental Croatia at Find  
 Croatia — [www.findcroatia.com/pla](http://www.findcroatia.com/pla)  
[cont.htm](http://www.findcroatia.com/pla) — which has links to destina-  
 tions of Gorski Kotar (look hard for the  
 ish version) to more featuring Zagreb.

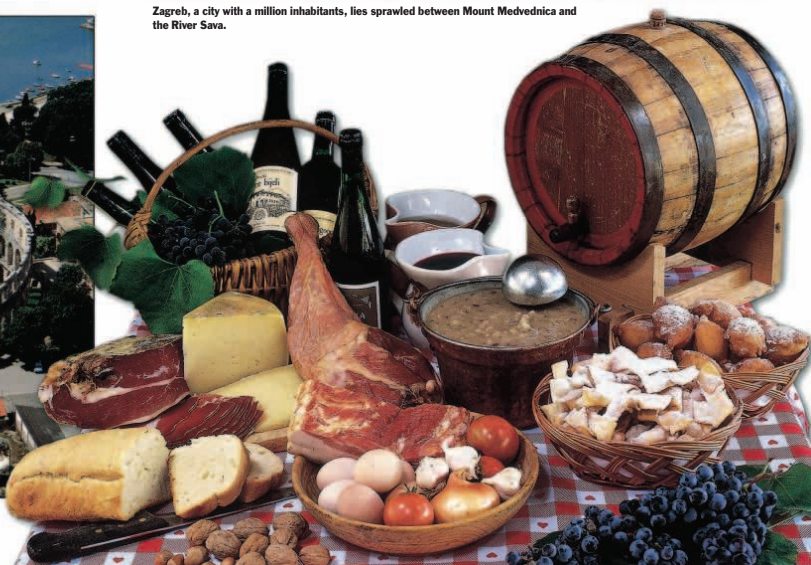
course in the Croatian language at the Croat-  
 — [www.hr/index.en.shtml](http://www.hr/index.en.shtml) — and then ex-  
 y Web links on other subjects, including  
 " and "Society," where you can delve into  
 find Croatian cook books, read Croatian  
 i about the war's effect on the nation. Look  
 & Traveling" for more links for visitors.



Zagreb, a city with a million inhabitants, lies sprawled between Mount Medvednica and the River Sava.



ity became an regional  
 of the Pannonian  
 and villages abound  
 d.







Turkish coffee is made in a small, long-handled pot known as a "cezve."

# Festive foods

## Gifts offer true taste of Europe

By The Washington Post

If you're looking for a holiday gift that gives a taste of Europe, think food.

Look for such products as specialty chocolates and candies, wine and other bottled drinks, bread spreads, dried herbs and spices, and prepackaged cheeses.

Prices range from a couple of bucks for sundries you can find in grocery stores or markets (jams, spices, biscuits, cheeses) to double digits for wine and liquor, to hundreds of dollars for premium goodies, such as high-end Italian balsamic vinegar.

But don't forget that if the gifts are being carried or mailed to the States, they must clear U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. postal regulations.

Here are suggestions worth saving:

### France

■ Sample some of France's regional finds. Among them: Maille mustard from the company's Dijon or Paris shop; Brittany's *galettes* de Pont-Aven, a buttery cookie; Drom's nougat de Montelimar, a confection made of nuts and lavender honey; and Perigord's foie gras and truffles — sold separately or indulgently mixed in one can.

Normandy is the hub of salted-butter caramels and Calvados, an apple brandy, while Ardeche has the lock on chestnut cream, tasty on cake or straight out of the container.

### Germany

■ This is the land of Christmas markets and Christmas goodies. Foremost are *Lebkuchen* cookies. They come in a variety of shapes and sizes, often packaged in attractive tins that are so popular among collectors that they give away the contents and keep the tins.

■ Other favorites include *Stollen*, especially from Dresden — a type of fruitcake without the jokes that usually go with it; *Spekulatius*, spiced cookies with almonds or hazelnuts; and *Peppernüsse*, or peppernuts, cookies that get their name from a stiff dose of black pepper in the dough.



Amaro Averna is a Sicilian after-dinner liqueur. Drink it following a plate of tortellini and a strong espresso, also specialties of Italy.

### Italy

Lavazza espresso is unique to this country of strong-coffee drinkers, as is Amaro Averna, a Sicilian after-dinner liqueur. Limoncello, squeezed from Sorrento lemons, comes from the Amalfi Coast, and tortellini from Bologna is world-renowned.

For friends you really like, you can drop a couple hundred or more on vintage balsamic vinegar from Modena. Another indulgence: white truffles from the Piedmont region or black truffles from Umbria.

One Italian tradition is dipping cantuccini biscuits from Siena into a glass of Vin Santo, the cherished wine from Tuscany's Chianti region. At Christmas time, panetton is chock-full of dried fruits and dates, unlike the paltry American version.



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

Spiced cookies called "Spekulatius" are a German favorite during the holiday season. They also come in a version made with almonds or hazelnuts.

### Netherlands

Black licorice, called Dutch Drop, puts a salty twist on Twizzlers. *Stroopwafels* (caramel-filled wafers) are sold in pretty tins and go well with a hot beverage (locals place the cookie atop the steaming cup and let the tastes meld). *Hagelslag* and *mujsjes* are crumbled onto bread and come in flavors such as chocolate and anise.

Serve fries the Dutch way, with mayo or French fry sauce, sold in plastic bottles and tubes by such local brands as Calve and Remia. Or stock up on Old Amsterdam cheese and matured black eadam, sold at the airport.

### Spain

Spaniards love their *jamón*, or cured ham. It is not unusual to find bars and restaurants with several legs of ham hanging from the ceiling right above the liquor rack. Many towns have stores that sell nothing but ham. There are several varieties based on where they are raised, what they eat and how long the ham is cured. The ham is cut and served in paper-thin slices.

For the sweet tooth there is *turrón* — a nougat made of almonds and honey — during Christmas. The Moors handed down its recipe. In Toledo, bakeries serve up marzipan and put out huge window displays of the confection. Sweet Oloroso sherries and brandy are typically sipped when the temperatures drop.



Calvados is a fine apple brandy from the Normandy region of France.

### Turkey

The people of Turkey are big drinkers — of tea, coffee, wine and raki, an anise-flavored alcohol sipped with meze, or small platters of appetizers.

You can find many flavors of tea as well as ground coffee at outdoor markets. Pair your coffee — scented with a dash of cinnamon or cardamom from the thousands of spices sold at Istanbul's spice bazaar — with a *cezve*, a long-handled cylindrical pot. Raki is sold nationwide in markets and kiosks.

All those groves in the Aegean region mean buckets of olives for martinis and nibbling, and gallons of olive oil for drizzling, saucing and sautéing. Turkey is also famous for its sweets, nuts and nut pastes.

Stars and Stripes contributed to this report.





### alpine snow conditions

Snow Report	Sno Base	Last	New	Lifts	General
Resort, IT	1200	11/20	0	12/20	Good skiing/boarding throughout area
Corvatsch, IT	95/5	11/20	0	6/04	Best conditions found on the upper slopes
Garmisch, GER	1005	12/01	0	15/21	Great skiing on well groomed pistes
Kaprun, AUS	97/0	11/20	0	13/24	Patchy snow cover in places
Kauferdtal, AUS	1000	12/01	0	7/0	Last week's new snow has kept well
Neustift, AUS	800	12/01	0	18/24	Best conditions found on the upper slopes
Passo Tena, IT	7000	12/01	0	13/15	Best snow found above mid-station; runs are packed
Pitztal, AUS	11015	11/20	0	7/7	Conditions good; several lifts open
Saas Fee, SW	17425	11/20	0	11/22	Snow softening; runs getting skidily lower down
Sölden, AUS	9010	11/20	0	19/24	Head up high for good skiing in sunshine
Tignes, FR	7025	11/20	0	17/90	Fair riding conditions on hard pistes
Val Senales, IT	7025	11/20	0	8/12	Best terrain found on higher slopes
Val Thonon, FR	5025	11/20	0	12/13	Good skiing on well groomed pistes
Zermatt, SW	1697	12/01	0	24/30	Good skiing; runs and snow packed off piste

as of December 6, 2004 \*All measurements in centimeters\*

as of December 6, 2004 \*All measurements in centimeters\*

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### Outdoor Recreation Ski Schedule

Kaiserslautern Polaris Bernhards 409-7751 (6031-536-7751)  
Dec. 18 & Dec. 25 Ski Express  
Dec. 23-26 Garmisch, Germany  
Dec. 23-28 Zermatt, Switzerland  
Darmstadt Southern French Kitzbühel 340 4277 04151 49-4277  
Jan 8 Skiing in Engelberg, Switzerland  
Mannheim Taylor Bernhards 381-7215 04221-728-7215  
Dec. 18 Skiing & Snowboarding  
Engelberg, Switzerland  
Heidelberg Patrick Henry Village 388-9222 04221-238-9282  
Jan. 9 & 22 Feldberg, Germany

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# Calendar

COMPILED BY  
JAYNE TRAENDLY

Special to Stars and Stripes

Listings are the latest information available at press time, but are subject to change. We recommend checking with the local tourist board to confirm details of the event before traveling.

## AUSTRIA

Telephone: (43) 1/211-140

Fax: (43) 1/216-8492

E-mail: inquiries@info.wien.at

www.austria-info.at

VIENNA: Imperial ball, **Dec. 31**; Flower ball, **Jan. 14**; Technologists' ball, **Jan. 14**; Economics University ball, **Jan. 15**; Vienna Philharmonic ball, **Jan. 20**; Army officers' ball, **Jan. 21**; Pharmacists' ball, **Jan. 22**; Engineers' ball, **Jan. 27**; Physicians' ball, **Jan. 29**; Hunters' ball, **Jan. 31**; Opera ball, **Feb. 3**; Viennese coffee house owners' ball, **Feb. 2**; Bonbon ball, **Feb. 4**; Lawyers' ball, **Feb. 5**; Rudolfina masked ball, **Feb. 7**; Johann Strauss ball, **March 19**. VIENNA: Dream on ice, **Jan. 21-March 6**. Ice skating in front of the City Hall.

## BELGIUM

Telephone: (32) 2/50-40-390

Fax: (32) 2/50-40-270

E-mail: info@visitbelgium.be

BRUSSELS: Brussels on ice, **through Jan. 3**. Ice shows and skating on Marche aux Poissons square.

ANTWERP: Ice skating on market square, **through Jan. 8**.

ANTWERP: Snow and ice sculpture festival, **through Jan. 16**.

BRUSSELS: Antiques show, **Jan. 21-30**. Tour & Taxis.

## ENGLAND

Telephone: (44) (44) 20/8846 9000

www.visitbritain.com

LONDON: New Year's Day parade, **Jan. 1**.

YORK: Stamp and coin fair, **Jan. 14-15**. Racecourse.

LONDON: Daily telegraph adventure travel and sports show, **Jan. 14-16**. Olympia.

SPALDING: Motorbike 2005, **Jan. 15-16**.

LONDON: International mime festival, **Jan. 5-30**.

LONDON: Vivace France, **Jan. 21-23**. French travel and lifestyle show in Olympia.

LONDON: Vive Espana, **Jan. 28-30**. Spanish travel and lifestyle show in Olympia.

LONDON: Motorcycle show, **Jan. 29-Feb. 6**. Alexandra Palace.

LONDON: Holiday and Travel Show, **Feb. 3-6**. Earls Court.

## FRANCE

Telephone: (33) 1/49.52.53.54

Fax: (33) 1/49.52.53.00

www.france-tourism.com

METZ: Flea market, **Dec. 12** (7 a.m.-6 p.m.). **Dec. 18**. Open 6 a.m.-noon.

PARIS: International nautical fair, **through Dec. 13**.



The sculpture "Peace," by German artist George Baselitz, is seen in front of Michelangelo's David statue at the exhibit "Forms for David" at the Accademia in Florence, Italy. The exhibit marks the 500th birthday of the Italian Renaissance artist.

## Best bets for the week

**NETHERLANDS:** In this dreary December weather, the "Gouda by Candlelight" celebration on Tuesday is a welcome event. It begins in the evening when Gouda's public lights go down in the market square and surrounding streets and the residents light thousands of candles. Later, the city mayor will read the Christmas story in front of the Town Hall and Christmas carols will be sung. A Christmas tree sent by the city's sister city in Norway will be lit and a free concert in the church will end the evening.

**SWITZERLAND:** The 17th century returns to Geneva's Old Town during the annual celebration of the Fete de l'Escalade ("scaling the walls"), which runs Friday through Sunday. The event marks the unsuccessful attack on the city by the Savoy troops on Dec. 12, 1602. On the program are military re-enactments, live music, historical visits of the town and food. The 17th-century costume historical parade begins 5 p.m. on Sunday, followed by a bonfire in front of St. Peter's Cathedral.

— JAYNE TRAENDLY

DUNKERQUE: Carnival, **Jan. 15-26**.

NICE: Carnival, **Feb. 11-27**.

## GERMANY

Telephone: (49) 69/97464-0

Fax: (49) 69/751-903

www.germany-tourism.de

MUNICH: Tollwood, **through Dec. 31**.

MUNICH: International motorcycle show, **Jan. 21-23**.

TODTMOOS: International dog sled races, **Jan. 29-30**.

SINSHEIM: Motorcycle exhibition, **Feb. 2-13**. Exhibition center.

BERLIN: International motorcycle show, **Feb. 4-6**. Fair grounds.

KÖLN: Carnival parade, **Feb. 7**.

MUNICH: Carnival parade, **Feb. 7**.

BERLIN: International film festival, **Feb. 10-12**.

## ITALY

Telephone: (39) 6/49-711

Fax: (39) 6/446-9907

www.italiantourism.com

ROME: New Year's Eve on the Piazza del Popolo, **Dec. 31-Jan. 1**.

THROUGHOUT the country: Various Epiphany celebrations, **Jan. 6**.

VENEZIA: Epiphany witches canal race, **Jan. 6**.

VIA REGGIO: Carnival, **Jan. 23-Feb. 13**.

VENEZIA: Carnival, **Jan. 28-Feb. 8**.

## THE NETHERLANDS

Telephone: (31) 70/370-5705

Fax: (31) 70/320-1654

E-mail: info@nbt.nl

www.holland.com/uk

AMSTERDAM: PAN. Art and antique fair, **through Dec. 12**. RAI

MAASTRICHT: Winterland Maas-richt, **through Jan. 8**. Ice skating on city square.

GOUDE: Gouda by candlelight, **Dec. 14**.

DEVENTER: Dickens festival, **Dec. 18-19**.

ROTTERDAM: International film festival, **Dec. 23-Jan. 2**.

APELDOORN: Midwinter marathon, **Jan. 29**.

LANDELJUK: Carnival, **Feb. 22-26**.

## SCOTLAND

Telephone: (44) 1463/71-6996

Fax: (44) 1463/71-7266

www.visitscotland.com

EDINBURGH: Hogmanay, **Dec. 29-Jan. 1**.

CRIFE: Cornie Hogmanay flam-  
beaux procession, **Dec. 31-Jan. 1**.

THROUGHOUT the country: Burns Night, **Jan. 25**.

## SPAIN

Telephone: (34) 91/411-4014/6011

Fax: (34) 91/564-4988

www.tourspain.co.uk

BARCELONA: Jazz festival, **through Dec. 15**.

www.the-project.net

SAN SEBASTIAN: Tamborrada, **Jan. 19-20**.

FEATBRIEF2ISWEDEN

Telephone: (46) 8/725 55 00

Fax: (46) 8/725 55 31

www.gosweden.com

www.visit-sweden.org

KIRUNA (Norrbotten): Snow festival, **Jan. 27-30**. Biggest in Europe.

Eventveite/snowfestival

JOKKMOCK (Norrbotten): Winter market, **Feb. 3-6**. Large, largest winter event in Northern Europe.

## SWITZERLAND

Telephone: (41) 1/288-1111

Fax: (41) 1/288-1205

www.switzerlandtourism.ch

GENEVA: Fête de l'Escalade, **Dec. 11-12**.

BASEL: World music fair, **Feb. 11-13**. Coin fair.

GENEVA: International car show, **March 3-13**.

## WALES

Telephone: (44) 1222/49-9909

Fax: (44) 1222/48-5031

LLANWRITDY WELLS: New Year walk in, **Dec. 31-Jan. 1**.

# Let's Go

BY JAYNE TRAENDLY

Stripes Travel researcher

## Ball season begins!

Ever imagine yourself waltzing around the floor at one of those grand balls in Austria? Well, you can make fantasy a reality at one of the more than 300 balls organized in Vienna through March.

The grandest is the Opera Ball on Feb. 3 in the Vienna State Opera, the one at which you're sure to spot a few movie stars. But according to locals, the smaller ones are just as nice and a little more relaxed.

For a list of dates and venue and price information, go to the Vienna Tourist Board Web site at [www.austria.info](http://www.austria.info).

## Women's travel site

Are you a single woman or one with a couple of pals who want to travel? You might want to check out an award-winning travel resource for women called Journeywoman.

At [www.journeywoman.com](http://www.journeywoman.com), issues include recommended restaurants, tips on London, shopping and what to wear when.

"Best bets" stories include topics such as space close to Venice, London - top 20 tips, loneliness on the road, international travel tips and advice for traveling with tots.

Other sections include travel tales, shopping, go-alone travel tips, journey doctor and gal-friendy cities.

— JAYNE TRAENDLY

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In the United States call (202) 761-0810. Fax: (202) 761-0890; or E-mail Gerard Kelly at [kellyg@stripes.osd.mil](mailto:kellyg@stripes.osd.mil).

# Volksmarch

As the year is winding down, so are the listings and information in the column. I'll return to Germany in a little over a week, just in time for the Christmas and New Year's walks, and I'll expect to find stacks of envelopes from you waiting at the post office. If you haven't sent fliers in a while, what are you waiting for? Let's start off 2005 with lots of walks and tidbits of information each week... mail those brochures!

Jennifer West



Thanks to you, and Mother Nature, the Ramstein Roadrunners had a very successful Thanksgiving Day walk. The German and American club members send their appreciation to all who attended this annual event and happy holidays!

Notes about this week's volksmarch events:

- Last weekend was the Winterbach

walk in the German state of Rheinland Pfalz. This weekend it's the Winterbach walk in the German state of Saarland. Walk in Winterbach on back-to-back weekends!

For the second year in a row, that I know of, there is a discrepancy in the Saturday start times: the front of the brochure reads 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., while the inside

shows 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. I'd play it safe and finish by 1 p.m. on each day and finish by 3.

• The members of the Soonwaldwanderer DXW e.V. have changed their start location this year to the town of Döhrbach. The start window for both Saturday and Sunday is 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. for the SK and 10K; the first time is 4 p.m. each day. A Bitburger beer ballcap, with the popular slogan *Bitte ein Bit*, adorns the front of the hat.

• Both French walks listed for Satur-

day host nighttime, or torch, walks. Remember that you should always carry a flashlight just in case the torches are sold out or if you find yourself in inclement weather (rain or wind). Play it safe when around small children... carry a flashlight.

• Here's what we hear from Clark Soeldner about Italian walks: "The Gemona del Friuli event begins at the social center on Via Piovega. Gemona is nestled at the foot of the mountains; expect serious grades for the longer walks. Expect the A-23 at Gemona then head north on the SS-13 for a short distance. Turn right to Piovega.

"There are usually a few tables with handwritten Christmas things for sale at the end of the Porcia walk. And if you're among the first 200, you can take home a Christmas stocking souvenir."

E-mail Jennifer West at volksmarch@maestripes.net. Mail Write her at: Volksmarch Column, Stars and Stripes, Bldg. 2899, Pulaski Barracks, OAF 09227-3717 (MPIS).

Listings come from brochures of IVV-sanctioned events that were either collected at volksmarches or mailed to Jennifer West by clubs. More extensive lists are available in the IVV or DVV-IVV Terminale.

Country/Town	Day(s) and Time(s)	Code	Km.	Starting Point	Award	Directional Reference
<b>France</b>						
Cocheren	Sat 1500-2100	FT	10	Centre Social Balavoine	No award	SW of Forbach
Erstein	Sat 1500-2000	FT	10	Maison des Oeuvres	No award	NW of Lahr, GE
<b>Germany</b>						
Beckingen	Sat & Sun 0730-1300	F	5 & 10	Deutscherhalle	No award	SAR, N of Saarouis
Döhrbach	Sat & Sun 0800-1400	CF	5 & 10	Schlossberghalle	Ball cap	RP, W of Bingen
Elsfeld am Main	Sat 0800-1600	BF	6 & 12	Bürgerzentrum	B-medal	FRU, S of Aschaffenburg
Elsfeld am Main	Sat 1600-1900	BFT	6	Bürgerzentrum	B-medal	FRU, S of Aschaffenburg
Holzhausen	Sat & Sun 0800-1500	F	5, 10, 15	Turmhalle	Certificate	NRW, SE of Siegen
Metzingen	Sun 0800-1300	F	5 & 10	Festhalle	B-medal	BWS, NE of Neulingen
Öttingen	Sun 0800-1400	F	5 & 10	Schulsporthalle	BWS, NW of Basel, CH	
Wienbrunn	Sat & Sun 0800-1300	F	5 & 10	Leibnizhalle	Angel award	FRO, NW of Kulmbach
Winterbach/Saar	Sat & Sun 0700-1300	FN	5 & 10	Mehrzweckhalle	No award	SAR, W of St. Wendel
<b>Italy</b>						
Gemona del Friuli	Sun 0930-1000	FX	7, 14, 21	Social Center	Souvenir (1st 200)	N of Udine
Porcia	Sun 0900	FX	6 & 12	Plaza Remigi, old town	X-Mas stocking (200)	S of Aviano
Ronchi del Legionaro	Sun 0900-1000	F	5 & 10	San Lorenzo church	Sweet	NE of Morfalcone
<b>Luxembourg</b>						
Kehlen	Sun 0700-1400	F	5 & 12	Salle de Musique	No award	NW of Luxembourg city
<b>Netherlands</b>						
Belfeld	Sat & Sun 0800-1400	-	5 & 10	Café Maaszicht	No award	S of Venlo
Belfeld	Sat & Sun 0800-1400	-	15 & 25	Café Maaszicht	No award	S of Venlo
Echt	Sun 0800-1400	-	7 & 12	Café 't Hingen	Sticker	N of Maasricht
Echt	Sun 0800-1200	-	19	Café 't Hingen	Sticker	N of Maasricht
Echt	Sun 0800-1000	-	25	Café 't Hingen	Sticker	N of Maasricht
Puth	Sun 0800-1400	-	5 & 10	Café zaal Oud Limburg	Sticker	S of Sittard
Puth	Sun 0800-1300	-	15	Café zaal Oud Limburg	Sticker	S of Sittard
Puth	Sun 0800-1200	-	25	Café zaal Oud Limburg	Sticker	S of Sittard
<b>Switzerland</b>						
Brüttisellen	Sun 0800-1300	-	5 & 12	Gesellhof	Souvenir	NE of Zürich
Uzwil	Sat & Sun 0800-1300	-	5 & 10	Gemeindeaal	Cow glass	W of St. Gallen
<b>United Kingdom</b>						
Grenoside	Sun 1030	-	5 & 10	Norfolk Arms	Souvenir	N of Sheffield
Nocton	Sun 0900-1130	-	10 & 20	Social Club	No award	SE of Lincoln

## GENERAL CODES:

B - Awards from past events available (B-medal)  
 C - Bring a cup for free refreshments at the control point  
 P - Shower/Wash facilities at start hall  
 F - Free refreshment at control point  
 M - Marathon or long-distance event

N - Nordic walking event  
 P - Music at start hall  
 S - Stroller-friendly trails  
 S - Shorter trail noted as stroller-friendly  
 T - Evening/Night walk carry a flashlight  
 X - Award available while supply lasts  
 W - Course suitable for wheelchairs

Y - Young-Walkers-Tour or Bambini-Liga event

2.5 - Reduced price of 2.50 euros for start card & B-medal

3 - Reduced price of 3 euros for start card & B-medal

## GERMAN STATE AND REGION CODES:

BWV - Baden-Württemberg Nord  
 BWV - Baden-Württemberg Süd  
 FRO - Oberfranken (Upper Franconia)  
 FRM - Mittelfranken (Middle Franconia)  
 FRU - Unterfranken (Lower Franconia)

HE - Hessen  
 MD - Mecklenburg-Vorpommern  
 NDS - Niedersachsen (Berlin)  
 NRW - Nordrhein-Westfalen  
 NDB - Niedersachsen

OPF - Oberpfalz  
 RP - Rheinland-Pfalz  
 SAR - Saarland  
 SCH - Schwaben  
 SHH - Schleswig-Holstein/Hamburg  
 THS - Thüringen/Sachsen

# Tours

Stripes Travel prints as many upcoming tours and events as space allows. If you have questions, call (449) (6) 6155-80-268.

## Germany

**Baumholder Outdoor Rec.: Dec. 11.** Rock Fun Run, 9 a.m., \$10, min. 8 a.m. **Dec. 17-19.** Polish pottery and wicker shopping. **Baumholder, Poland.** \$115. DSN 485-7182 or 06783-67182.

**Darmstadt Outdoor Rec.: Christmas markets: Dec. 11.** Stuttgart, **Dec. 18.** Cologne, **Dec. 25.** DSN 346-6277 or CIV 06151-69-6277 for information and reservations.

**Hannau Outdoor Rec.: Dec. 11.** Nürnberg Christmas market, \$49. **Dec. 11.** Dresden Christmas market, \$49. DSN 322-6015 or on Old Argonne Kasern, DSN 322-8891.

**Kaiserslautern Outdoor Rec.: Dec. 10-12.** Paris, \$169. **Dec. 10-12.** Poland shopping, \$120. **Dec. 11.** Nürnberg Christmas market, \$38. **Dec. 12.** Valkenburg Christmas market, \$38. **Dec. 15.** Central Mall shopping, \$35. **Dec. 18.** Battle of the Bulge 60th Anniversary Memorial, \$35. **Dec. 11 and 18.** Luxembourg Christmas market and volksmarch, \$30. **Dec. 18.** Central Mall, \$35. **Dec. 19.** Stuttgart Christmas market, \$30. DSN 489-7751 or CIV 0631-636-7751.

**Katzenbach Outdoor Rec.: Dec. 15.** Rothenburg Christmas market, \$22. **Dec. 25.** Ansbach Christmas market, DSN 467-3225 or CIV 09802-83-3225. **BOSS: Dec. 30-Jan. 2.** New Year's in Paris, \$250. DSN 468-7636 or CIV 0661-185-636.

**Ramstein (KMG) RTT Destinations Unlimited:** DSN 480-6330/489-7064/496-7719. **Dec. 12 and 18.** Castles on the Rhine, two castles, cruise, lunch, wine tasting shopping, \$89. **Dec. 10-12.** Prague and Karlovy Vary, 1 night hotel, 3 meals and city tour, \$189. **Dec. 18-19.** Brussels and Brugge, 1 night downtown & city tours, \$169. **Dec. 11 and 18.** Rothenburg and Nürnberg Christmas markets, \$29. **Dec. 11 and 18.** Christmas market in Cologne, \$49. **Dec. 11 and 18.** Nancy (France) Christmas, visit the St. Nicolas Basilica and then a candy making demonstration \$59. All tours without transfers.

**Flight tours from Frankfurt: Dec. 24-31.** Egypt, 8 days includes flight, hotels, overnight train, admissions and 6 days of tours with lunches, 1049 euros; **March 13-20.** Moscow and St. Petersburg, 1049 euros includes flight, hotels, overnight train, admissions, tours and lunches; **April 9-16.** Beijing and Xi'an, China, 8 days in China with tours of the Great Wall, Forbidden City, Xian's Terra Cotta Warriors, and other famous locations. Flight, tours, admissions, many meals and superb shopping! 1329 euros.

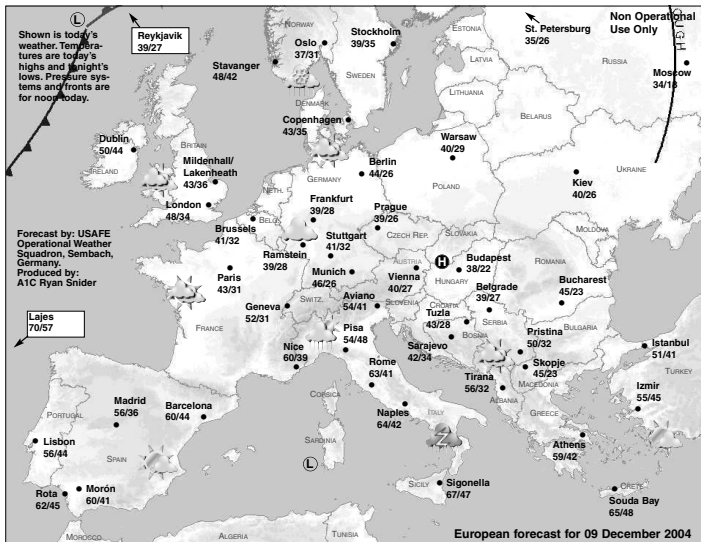
**Schweinfurt 290th BSB community Rec. division:** DSN 354-6270 or (09721) 966270. **Dec. 16.** Rothenburg Christmas market.

**Spangdahlem Outdoor Rec.: Dec. 11.** Valkenburg, \$25 adults, \$15 child ages 6-12. Reservations 1 week prior to trip. DSN 452-7176 or COMM 06565-61-7176.

**Spangdahlem Information, Tickets and Travel:** Dec. 11. Nürnberg Christmas market, \$55 adults, \$50 child; **Dec. 11.** Heidelberg Christmas market, \$30. **Dec. 11.** Strasbourg Christmas market, \$39 adults, \$34 child; **Dec. 18.** Brussels Christmas market, \$39 adults, \$34 child; **Dec. 18.** Reims Christmas market, \$37 adults, \$32 child; **Dec. 23-26.** Prague, 2 overnights, \$395 adults, \$388 child; **Dec. 30-Jan. 1.** Paris, 2 overnights, \$319 adults; **Dec. 30-Jan. 1.** Berlin, 1 overnight, \$195 adults; **Dec. 31.** Amsterdam Express, \$39; **Jan. 1.** Paris, 1 overnight, \$229. DSN 452-6567 or COMM 06565-61-6567.

**USO Rhein-Neckar (Darmstadt-Heidelberg-Mannheim):** DSN 385-3468, CIV (0621) 730-3468. **Dec. 11.** Bad Wimpfen Christmas Market, \$29. **Dec. 12.** Mannheim Christmas Market, \$29. **Dec. 14.** Mannheim Christmas Market, \$29. **Dec. 17 and Jan. 8.** Evin's Wellness Spa, \$5 euros (WAT form) for 2.5 hour treatment, plus \$29 transportation. **Dec. 18.** Colmar city & Christmas market, \$39. **Dec. 18.** Heidelberg city & Christmas market, \$10. **Dec. 19.** Rudesheim and Rhine cruise, adults \$45, child \$30. **Dec. 21 and 22.** Wachenheim orientation, \$10. **Dec. 27 and Jan. 23.** Caracalla Terme, Baden-Baden, \$39.





KEY: Sunny Pt. Cldy. Mostly cldy. Cloudy Showers Tstorms Rain Rain/snow Snow Cold frnt. Warm frnt. Trough Occluded fr. Staty. front Low High

## AFRICA

	HI	LO		HI	LO
Cape Town	82	62	Mogadishu	85	7
Dakar	82	71	Nairobi	77	5
Freetown	88	74	Rabat	62	4

## THE WORLD

	HI	LO		HI
Amsterdam	40	32	Manila	86
Bahrain	75	54	Mexico City	73
Beijing	51	26	Montreal	39
Beirut	65	55	Riyadh	77
Bermuda	75	66	Rio de Jan	87
Caracas	89	74	Seoul	55
Helsinki	31	25	Sofia	45
Hong Kong	73	61	Sydney	80
Ulsahn	56	44	Tokyo	68

## TODAY'S STATESIDE OUTLOOK

[illegible]

## MIDEAST

A map of South Asia showing the locations of nuclear tests. Pakistan's tests are marked with black dots and labeled: Kohat (30/3), Chagai (30/3), and Khetraj (30/3). India's tests are marked with black dots and labeled: Pokhran (4/5), Pokhran (11/5), and Pokhran (13/5). Other cities shown include Kabul (54/33), Islamabad (72/43), New Delhi (75/49), Kandahar (74/47), Karachi (86/60), Bombay (91/70), and Hyderabad (85/58). The map also shows the borders of Afghanistan, Pakistan, and India.

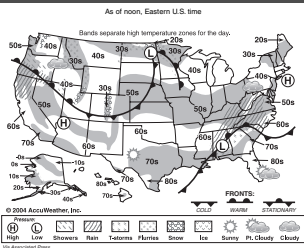
## SUN & MOON

	Today	Tomorrow
Sunrise (Baghdad)	6:55am	6:56am
Sunrise (Frankfurt)	8:13am	8:14am
Sunset (Baghdad)	4:56pm	4:56pm
Sunset (Frankfurt)	4:24pm	4:24pm

			
New moon	First qtr.	Full moon	Last qtr.

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## AFRTS Television Schedule

Updated sports listings are available on the first scoreboard page in the sports section or AFRTS's Web site at <http://myafnts.dodmedia.osd.mil>

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2004

	(AFN-FAMILY)	(AFN-MOVIE)	(AFN-EUROPE)	(AFN-KOREA)	(AFN-NEWS)	(AFN-SPORTS)	(SPECTRUM)	(AFN-PACIFIC)
9:00	Sagwa-Siemens Cat	Movie "Never Say Never: The Dedee Hall Story" (1995, Dima)	Dr. Phil	Jeopardy!	Nightline	NBA Basketball Teams to Be Announced, (Taped)	30-Minute Meals	Jeopardy!
9:30	Arthur (E)	Dedee Hall, Daniel Hough, Jelly, Eve Gordon	(16:46) Oprah Winfrey	Headline News	Navy/Marine Corps News		Low Carb & Lovin' It	Headline News
10:00	Between the Lions (E)		(35) Guiding Light	ESPNs	Herald with Chris Matthews		Design on a Dime	ESPNs
10:30	Sagwa-Siemens Cat	(10:46) Movie *** "The Pink Panther Brief" (1993, Surreal)	(17) General Hospital	Advisory Board	The O'Reilly Factor		Style Star	Pacific Report
11:00	Stanley "Hippo Helpers"	Julia Roberts, Denzel Washington, Sam Sheppard.	Headline News	Two and a Half Men		NFL Live	Jeopardy!	Two and a Half Men
11:30	Dora the Explorer		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation	Will & Grace	60 Minutes	SportsCenter	That '70s Show	Will & Grace
12:00	The Wiggles		Early Rollout	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation			CSI: Crime Scene Investigation	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation
12:30	Bob the Builder	Movie *** "Indecent Proposal" (1993, Robert Rodriguez)	Today Pamirina Nagra, Kevin Spaszy, advice for parents.	Early Rollout	Fox and Friends		Charmed "Siren's Song"	Pacific Report
13:00	Dragon Tales (E)	A man offers a couple \$1 million for a night with the wife.		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation	Fox and Friends		Ally McBeal Ally holds a Male Model's Night at the bar.	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation
13:30	Blue's Clues			The Tonight Show	American Morning		Any Day Now "Don't Give Up"	The Tonight Show
14:00	Barney & Friends (E)	(10:47) Movie *** "Cool Runnings" (1993, Comedy Lion)	Legend of Tarzan		CNN Live Today	Inside the NFL	ER "Walk Like a Man"	Late Show
14:30	Funniest Home Videos	(1993, Comedy Lion)	Sahib, Real Monsters	Late Show				
15:00	Full House	Based on the true story of the America's 1988 bobsled team.	Laibini, the Animated Series					
16:00	Pokemon "A Poached Egg"		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation	Access Hollywood				Access Hollywood
16:30	Yu-Gi-Oh! "Double Duel"		Headline News	Headline News	FOX News	Rodeo Wrangler National Finals from Las Vegas.	The Simpsons	Dennis Miller
17:00	Aaahh! Real Monsters	Showbiz Moms & Dads	Jeopardy!	Headline News	FOX News		Law & Order "Charished"	Headline News
17:30	Rocket Power		Headline News	The Late Late Show			The Late Late Show	The Late Late Show
18:00	SpongeBob SquarePants	Cart-Movies	Destinations					
18:30	Rugrats	Entertainment Tonight	AFN Evening News	Dennis Miller				
19:00	That's So Raven	Movie *** "Mystery, Alaska" (1999) Russell Crowe, Amel	Movie *** "Mystery, Alaska" (1999) Russell Crowe, Amel	Movie *** "Mystery, Alaska" (1999) Russell Crowe, Amel	60 Minutes		Everybody Loves Raymond	Dennis Miller
19:30	All That		Will & Grace	Countdown with Keith Oberman	FOX News		Countdown with Keith Oberman	Countdown with Keith Oberman
20:00	7th Heaven "Smoking"		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation	Early Rollout			The Practice "Silly Partners"	Entertainment Studios.com
20:30	Sabrina, the Teenage Witch	(14:06) *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999) Kristen Dunst	Headline News	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation	Studio 8 With Shepard Smith	Golf Target World Challenge - First Round, From Sherwood Country Club in Thousand Oaks, Calif. (Live)	48 Hours Mystery	Headline News
21:00	Sabrina, the Teenage Witch	(1999) Russell Crowe, Amel	Headline News	Early Rollout			Friends	Friends
22:00	The Cosby Show	Minnesota beauty queens compete for a coveted life.	The Tonight Show	Headline News			Sinfeld "The Nap"	Today Pamirina Nagra, Kevin Spaszy, advice for parents.
23:00	Radio Free Roscoe	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997) George Clooney	Late Show				The Daily Show	The Daily Show
23:30	Home Improvement						Blind Date	Blind Date
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2004								
00:00	Why Arnold "Marned"	(11:00) Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(11:30) Late Show	Play with My Sesame Bear in the Big Blue House	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night	Play with My Sesame Bear in the Big Blue House
00:30	Rocket Power		Access Hollywood		NBC Nightly News	NFL Live		Clifford the Big Red Dog (E)
1:00	SpongeBob SquarePants	(1:03) Movie *** "Memphis Blues" (1990, Drama)	College Football Awards Show	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E)	ABC World News Tonight		Summerland "Big Waves"	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E)
1:30	Rugrats Riza	Whitney Houston, Eric Clapton, Tina Turner		Wheel of Fortune	CSI: Evening News			Wheel of Fortune
2:00	That's So Raven		Dr. Phil	Newsweek Weekend With Lela Lander	Newsweek Weekend With Lela Lander	(15:15) NBA Basketball San Antonio Spurs at Houston Rockets, from Toyota Center in Houston, Texas	The Practice "Silly Partners"	Dr. Phil
2:30	All That						48 Hours Mystery	Oprah Winfrey
3:00	7th Heaven "Smoking"	Movie *** "Mystery, Alaska" (1999) Russell Crowe, Amel	College Basketball Texas Christian at Kansas, (Live)	Oprah Winfrey	Headline News			
3:30	Sabrina, the Teenage Witch			NBC Nightly News	Nightly Business Report	NBA Basketball Boston Celtics at Portland Trail Blazers, from the Rose Garden in Portland, Ore. (Live)	Friends	NBC Nightly News
4:00	Sabrina, the Teenage Witch			Headline News	Lois Lomax Tonight		BrasserieParisque	Headline News
5:00	Sesame Street (E)	(1:04) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999) Kristen Dunst	Headline News	Access Hollywood	Larry King Live		Caribbean Workout	(25) The View
5:30	Barney & Friends (E)	(1999) Russell Crowe, Amel	Headline News	(25) The View			Body Shaping	(13) General Hospital
6:00	Blue's Clues	Minnesota beauty queens compete for a coveted life.		(13) General Hospital			10PM "My Ellen	
6:30	Dragon Tales (E)	Showbiz Moms & Dads	Play with My Sesame Bear in the Big Blue House	Primitime Thursday	NightNews with Aaron Brown	Inside the NBA	The View	Teacher's Pet (E)
7:00	Bob the Builder		Clifford the Big Red Dog (E)	Ozzy & Drix "Tricky Ricardo"	BET Nightly News	SportsCenter	Emeri Live	What's the New Scooby-Do?
8:00	The Wiggles "Lily"	Cart-Movies	Wheel of Fortune	The Brothers Garcia	Tavis Smiley		Ozzy & Drix "Tricky Ricardo"	The Brothers Garcia
8:30	Dora the Explorer	Movie *** "101 Dalmatians: The Susan Wilson Story" (2002, Drama)	Dr. Phil	Headline News	Headline News	College Basketball Connecticut at Massachusetts, (Taped)	30-Minute Meals	Jeopardy!
9:00	Sagwa-Siemens Cat	(10:46) Movie *** "Cool Runnings" (1993, Comedy Lion)	(16:46) Oprah Winfrey	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews		Early Entertainment-Chicago	Headline News
9:30	Arthur (E)		(35) Guiding Light	Advisory Board			Decorating Cents	ESPNs
10:00	Between the Lions (E)		(17) General Hospital	King of the Hill	The O'Reilly Factor		The Rock for Less	Pacific Report
10:30	Sagwa-Siemens Cat	Movie *** "Indecent Proposal" (1993, Robert Rodriguez)	Headline News	That '70s Show	Primitime Thursday	Rodeo Wrangler National Finals from Las Vegas, (Taped)	The King of the Hill	The King of the Hill
11:00	Dora the Explorer	A master thief stumbles into a presidential conspiracy.	Headline News	The Apprentice			That '70s Show	The Apprentice
11:30	The Wiggles "Foodman"		Today Katie Bowser; it's Fox (N)				Charmed "Witches in Tights"	Survivor: Vanuatu, Islands of Fire (Part 1 of 2)
12:00	Bob the Builder	Movie *** "Love Story" (1970)	Headline News	Survivor: Vanuatu, Islands of Fire (N)	Fox and Friends		Ally McBeal "Two's a Crowd" (Part 1 of 2)	Pacific Report
12:30	Dragon Tales (E)	At MacDermid, Ryan O'Neal	Headline News	Pacific Report	Fox and Friends		Any Day Now "One Hour of Denial"	The Tonight Show
13:00	Barney & Friends (E)	Based on Chris Segal's novel about star-crossed sisters.	The Tonight Show	The Tonight Show	American Morning		ER "A Hopeless Woman"	Late Show
13:30	Funniest Home Videos	(9:50) Movie *** "Searching for Bobby Fischer" (1993, Drama)	Teacher's Pet (E)	What's a New Scooby-Do?		NFL Game of the Week		
14:00	Full House	(1993, Drama)	Late Show	Ozzy & Drix "Tricky Ricardo"	CNN Live Today	Pardon the Interruption	Yankees "Over '04"	Access Hollywood
14:30	Blue's Clues "Blue's Play"		The Brothers Garcia	Headline News		SportsCenter	Headline News	The Late Late Show
15:00	Barney & Friends (E)		Headline News	The Late Late Show	FOX News	Inside the NFL	The Simpsons	The Late Late Show
15:30	Rocket Power	Cart-Movies	Headline News	Headline News			Everybody Loves Raymond	Dennis Miller
16:00	SpongeBob SquarePants	Hollywood Backstories	Headline News	AFN Evening News			Charmed "High School Reunion"	Countdown with Keith Oberman
16:30	Rugrats	Entertainment Tonight	Headline News	Dennis Miller	PrimeTime Thursday	College Basketball Texas Christian at Kansas, (Live)	Boston Public "Chapier Thirty"	Entertainment Studios.com
17:00	All Grown Up (Part 2 of 2)	Movie *** "Can't Hardy Wait" (1998) Jennifer Love Hewitt	Headline News	King of the Hill	FOX News	Golf Target World Challenge - Second Round, From Sherwood Country Club in Thousand Oaks, Calif. (Live)	Friends	Friends
17:30	Dave the Barbarian		Headline News	Countdown with Keith Oberman	Studio 8 With Shepard Smith		Sinfeld "Iada Yada"	Oobi
18:00	Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius		The Apprentice	The Apprentice			The Daily Show	Clifford's Pupper Days (E)
18:30	Duke & Josh "First Crush"	(8:55) Movie *** "The Thomas Crown Affair" (1999, Adventure)	Survivor: Vanuatu, Islands of Fire (N)	Today Katie Bowser; it's Fox (N)			Blind Date	Blind Date
19:00	That's So Raven		Headline News					
19:30	Sabrina, the Teenage Witch		The Tonight Show					
20:00	Switched "Steven and Kelly"							
20:30	Radio Free Roscoe							
21:00	The Cosby Show	Movie *** "Money Talks" (1997) O'Jays						
21:30	Home Improvement							

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2004

00:00 Hey Arnold! "Manned"	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(11:30) Late Show Access Hollywood	Play With Me Sesame Bear in the Big Blue House	SportsCenter	Late Night	Play With Me Sesame Bear in the Big Blue House
00:30 Rocket Power	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(12) Movie *** "Memento Belle" (1990, Drama) Matthew Moore, Eric Stoltz, Tate Don- nelli	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
1:00 Sabrina, the Teenage Witch	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(13) Movie *** "Memento Belle" (1990, Drama) Matthew Moore, Eric Stoltz, Tate Don- nelli	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
1:30 All That	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(14) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
2:00 That's So Raven	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(15) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
2:30 All That	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(16) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
3:00 7th Heaven "Smoking"	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(17) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
3:30 Sabrina, the Teenage Witch	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(18) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
4:00 Sabrina, the Teenage Witch	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(19) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
4:30 Sabrina, the Teenage Witch	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(20) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
5:00 Seaside Street (E)	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(21) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
5:30 Barney & Friends (E)	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(22) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
6:00 Barney & Friends (E)	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(23) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
6:30 Blue's Clues "Puppets" (E)	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(24) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
7:00 Dragon Tales (E)	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(25) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
7:30 Bob the Builder	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(26) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
8:00 The Wiggles "TV"	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(27) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
8:30 Dora the Explorer	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(28) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
9:00 Stanley "Lille Dog Lost"	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(29) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
9:30 Savage-Siemens Cat Arthur (E)	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(30) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
10:00 Between the Lions (E)	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(31) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
11:00 Savage-Siemens Cat Arthur (E)	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(32) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
11:30 Stanley "Penguin Party"	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(33) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
12:00 Dora the Explorer	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(34) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
12:30 The Wiggles "Toonman"	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(35) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
13:00 Bob the Builder	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(36) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
13:30 Dragon Tales (E)	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(37) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
14:00 Blue's Clues "Buen Play"	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(38) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
14:30 Barney & Friends (E)	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(39) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
15:00 Funniest Home Videos	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(40) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
15:30 Full House	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(41) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
16:00 Pokemon "It's a Crowd"	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(42) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
16:30 Yu-Gi-Oh! "Double Duel"	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(43) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
17:00 Aaahh! Real Monsters	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(44) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
17:30 Rocket Power	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(45) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
18:00 SpongeBob SquarePants	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(46) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
18:30 Rugrats	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(47) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
19:00 All Grown Up (Part 2 of 2)	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(48) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
19:30 Save the Barbarian	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(49) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
20:00 Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(50) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
20:30 Drake & Josh "First Crush"	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(51) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
21:00 That's So Raven	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(52) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
21:30 Sabrina, the Teenage Witch	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(53) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
22:00 Radio Free Roscoe	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(54) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
23:00 The Cosby Show	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(55) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune
23:30 Home Improvement	Movie *** "Batman & Robin" (1997, Adventure)	(56) Movie *** "Drop Dead Gorgeous" (1999, Crime) Kristin Dunst, Michael Vartan, David Duchovny	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E) Wheel of Fortune	NFL Live	Summerland "Big Waves"	Wheel of Fortune

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# FACES

## Hate threats don't deter actress

**Idina Menzel**, star of the Broadway musical "Wicked," and her husband, actor **Taye Diggs**, have received hateful threats because of their interracial marriage.

The couple was the focus of at least three letters last week in which bodily harm was threatened, the New York Post reported in Monday editions.

Despite the threats, Menzel still performed on Sunday, arriving at the Gershwin Theater under heavy guard. For the matinee, she was accompanied by five plainclothes guards, who remained stationed outside the stage door.

## Rapper wants to stand out in Hollywood

**David Banner** doesn't want to be just another rapper who strolls into movies, so the Mississippi rhymers has been spending the past few months in Los Angeles, studying acting in preparation for a movie career.

"I'm studying this form of talent," Banner said. "I've had opportunities to be in several major movies, but I don't want to just jump in."

Banner says he's always been interested in an acting career, but growing up, he never knew how to get involved in it.

"Those opportunities are not readily available, coming from urban situations where you don't know much," he said.

Banner says he's learned a lot in his studies — and he's able to translate it to everyday life. "Acting actually teaches you to be more patient with society... As an actor, you're able to break down the psyche of people."

## Price is right for animal welfare

Game show host **Bob Barker**, a longtime proponent of animal welfare, has donated \$1 million to Duke Law School to endow a program to teach animal rights law, launching the endowment Friday.

The **Bob Barker Endowment Fund for the Study of Animal Rights Law** will support education in animal rights law, including opportunities for students to earn course credit on cases involving compliance with state animal cruelty laws and other forms of animal rights advocacy.

"It's similar to funds Barker has established in the past few years at law schools including those at Harvard, Stanford, Columbia and UCLA."

"Animals need all the protection we can give them," Barker said. "We intend to train a growing number of law students in this area of the law in what he feels they will ultimately lead a national effort to make the illegal to brutalize and exploit these helpless creatures."

**Barker**

## Gilligan brings smiles with island of toys

Gilligan turned into Santa's helper when former television star **Bob Denver** and his wife joined a Princeton, W.Va., car dealership's toy campaign.

"I think it's all been fantastic. It has only been 45 minutes, and we're already done really well," Denver said during Saturday's event, which transformed Ramey Chrysler's lot into an island of toys.

"We normally do this in a smaller way, but we wanted to go all out this year. When I was growing up, I was underprivileged myself, and I don't get a lot of toys at Christmas, so this is really important to me," said **Jim Ramey Sr.**, owner of Ramey Automotive Group.

Denver, star of the 1960s TV show "Gilligan's Island," and his wife, **Dreama**, donated a pickup truck full of toys and a \$1,000 check to the Princeton Quota Club. The couple lives in the area.

All the toys will go to the Marine Corps League's Toys for Toys campaign. The organization recently received \$1,300 worth of toys from Toys-R-Us in Roanoke, Va., and a bakery donated \$2,000 worth of toys.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press



**Christina Aguilera** performs during the Grammy Awards in Los Angeles in February.

In late April, Aguilera canceled her entire 28-city tour due to "strained vocal cords." The cancellation broke **FansRule**, the company that ran Aguilera's fan club, leaving it unable to refund tickets.

AP

## Bankrupt club costs concert goers big money

BY JAKE COYLE

The Associated Press

**NEW YORK** — Many artists hire outside companies to run their fan clubs, but one club designed to bring fans closer to their idols ended up dividing them.

Last June, 13-year-old **Sophia Lief** was all set to go to her first concert to see her absolute favorite: **Christina Aguilera**.

Sophia's mother, **Janet Crane**, wanted to be assured of getting good tickets. So she joined Aguilera's official fan club, paying the \$35 membership fee that offered access to seats in the first 20 rows. She bought three tickets, totaling around \$375.

In late April, however, Aguilera canceled her entire 28-city tour due to "strained vocal cords." Naturally, Sophia's mother looked for a refund — except there was none, for her or hundreds of other Aguilera fans.

Aguilera had hired a company called **FansRule** to run her Web site and fan club. But as it was taking money for Aguilera tickets, **FansRule** was being run by a court-appointed bankruptcy trustee after filing for Chapter 11 in November 2003.

**FansRule** still owes about \$320,000 to Aguilera fans, trustee **Joe Baldiga** says. "The inability to refund payments made for tickets," Baldiga said on Aguilera's web site, "is in no way the fault of Christina Aguilera."

Sophia doesn't agree. "Her fans aren't going to follow her through the years if she treats us like this and doesn't even make up the [canceled] concerts," she said.

Said Crane: "I don't really know how the music business works, but she is responsible if she hired [FansRule]. We paid money on good faith." She recently obtained reimbursement from her credit card company, six months after the fact.

**FansRule** also ran clubs for **Aerosmith**. After the band postponed three concerts in June, many ticketbuyers went without refunds. One fan, **Ginny Robertson**, posted a Web page telling **FansRule** to kiss a certain part of her body.

"I will continue to be a fan, but I am extremely disappointed and disillusioned at the way [they] have sold us out for a quick buck," she wrote. "I never would have believed it possible for them to become like this!"

It has become regular practice for music acts to outsource their fan clubs to companies that run their Web sites, sell high-price VIP concert tickets and offer an assortment of perks for paying members. But how did the fans of international stars like Aguilera and **Aerosmith** end up left out in the cold — and for a summer tour, no less? Like many things, the answer begins with none other than the **Grateful Dead**. Decades ago, the Dead pioneered the idea of a club offering direct ticketing to their biggest fans. Back then, as much as 50 percent of tickets were made available directly to **Deadheads**. Now **Ticketmaster** caps seats available to fan clubs at closer to 10 percent.

The business dramatically changed, though, in the '90s with the **Dave Matthews Band**. Manager **Conan Capshaw** saw a connection with fan clubs and the then-emerging In-

ternet, which offered new ways for bands to connect with their fans beyond the traditional newsletter.

"Fan clubs had been a neglected or stepchild of the business," says **Capshaw**, now the CEO of **Musicoity**, one of the largest fan service businesses.

For example, one of **Musicoity**'s acts, **The Rolling Stones**, offered two types of memberships. For \$65, a fan gets a one-year membership, full access to the member-only online fan club, e-mail updates and a **Stones DVD**. However, \$100 also buys a commemorative poster and special access to tour tickets.

The amenities for members can be a fan's dream. Turnstyle, a smaller company whose clients include **Kid Rock** and **Pamela Anderson**, offers raffles where fans can win a birthday phone call from their favorite artist.

**FansRule** was pushing in getting fans even closer to their idols.

Founder and former CEO **Neil Donahue**, a venture capitalist and music producer, says his company was "pioneering in fan experiences."

It specialized in getting fans front row and backstage as part of a "velvet rope experience."

**Brian Sikorski**, CEO of **Ticketrends.com**, said **FansRule** was an innovator in the highest growth area of the music business. **Mike Lundgren**, former chief operating officer of **FansRule**, says the company only went bankrupt because of "external financial reasons" — which remain murky.

**Sikorski** talks of mismanaged funds. **Baldiga** says an individual may have taken money from the company — a possibility **Sikorski** considers likely, noting the questionable nature of many of the company's financial records. In the **Pocket Productions**.

"They give fan services a bad name," says **Sikorski**. **Baldiga**, while running the company under bankruptcy law guidelines, used all incoming money to pay **FansRule**'s bills. He says the company was going "gangbusters" until the Aguilera tour cancellation.

After the non-tour, a proposition for over \$1 million in financing was turned down in bankruptcy court and **Baldiga** closed down **FansRule** for good. Hundreds of fans remain unpaid and their chances for reimbursement from **FansRule** look bleak. Ultimate resolution of **FansRule**'s liquidation could take two to three years, says **Jon Aquino**, an aquino bankruptcy trustee.

Aguilera has hired attorney **Larry Green** to help retrieve as much money as possible for her fans. He hopes the matter can be settled within a year.

**Green** says Aguilera "never saw a dime" of the tour ticket money, and is actually owed money in "mid-five figures." But he says he is seeking reimbursement for the fans, not Aguilera.

Whether these experiences will lose fans for Aguilera or **Aerosmith** remains to be seen. But it's clear that out-sourced fan clubs will thrive regardless. Record labels are beginning to sniff around, sensing a new revenue stream.

"This business is just going to grow and grow," says **Baldiga**, even as he presides over the liquidation of **FansRule**. "It's the way of the future."

*"I will continue to be a fan, but I am extremely disappointed and disillusioned at the way [they] have sold us out for a quick buck."*

**Ginny Robertson**

expressing displeasure with **FansRule** and **Aerosmith** for not reimbursing fans following a canceled concert



**Denver**

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THOMAS BIERMANN, General Manager, Europe  
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## No CIB in an Army of One

The infantry is doing all the work?

I guess I am a little confused as to what war some of the recent letter writers are involved in. Last time I checked, there are no military police units now infantry in Iraq. So why does the Combat Infantryman Badge have to remain an infantry-only item? I don't think the infantry is bearing the majority of the weight in any conflict any more. The infantry may not always have the most exciting missions while they are deployed, but neither do the MPs, who are also deployed more often and spend longer periods in dangerous areas.

If the Army wants to continue to use non-infantry units for major offensives and military operations, it needs to consider changing the regulations as to who is authorized to be awarded the CIB. Why would a truck driver who has seen more action on the streets of Iraq be denied the CIB? An infantry soldier only has to be under fire once during his entire deployment to earn his CIB—while a truck driver or medic could be under the same type of fire on a daily basis and not be given the award.

I thought the Army motto was "An Army of One." Does that not mean we are all the same? Are we not all equal and all trained in the same art of war in basic training? Then why is there a double standard for a non-infantry soldier who incurs the same types of and severity of battles that an infantry soldier does?

Sgt. Jeremiah Tuzza

Baghdad

## U.S. helping Afghan people

No matter where we have been, over the course of our lives we have learned many things. What we have learned can be used to help others grow, to heal the wounds of the planet, to leave a legacy of a better world.

There are many people today working toward a different world, a world of cooperation and compassion. They look at the world from the perspective of the power of love to heal, and the idea that we can do whatever we think and set out to do, and do it with compassion.

Whenever war breaks out in any part of the world, it affects the children the most. During the last decade, children worldwide have been killed as a result of war, children have been disabled, left homeless and psychologically traumatized as a result of war.

Every so often, a child is blown up as the result of more than 10 million land mines planted all over Afghanistan. One-third of Afghanistan's land-mine victims are estimated to be children. Those children who survive a trauma of a mine incident are a burden on their families and require extensive medical care, rehabilitation and, most important, economic support throughout their lives.

## Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on newspapers and columns that are published in the newspaper, and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must be signed, and must include the writer's address or base and telephone number. Please limit all letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity.

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In helping the Afghan people rebuild their country, we have placed a central focus on education. Under the Taliban regime, educating women was a criminal act. Under the new government of a liberated Afghanistan, educating all children is a national priority. Still, there are children in this country, children from the globe who lack the necessary clothes to go to school, children who lack notebooks, pencils, pens, books, etc., which is leading to a poor quality of education.

We have helped Afghanistan rebuild its roads and bridges. We're rebuilding its health clinics and schools. The young girls and boys of Afghanistan will have the opportunity to get the education they deserve. This is a remarkable moment in the history of Afghanistan, and a proud moment for the American people to know that we made a difference in a time of war. Through the help and the support of the home front, our Outreach Program is to bring a brighter future of freedom, hope and opportunity to Afghan families and children.

America has been extremely generous in helping the children of Afghanistan. The brave servicemen and women of the U.S. military will continue to fight al-Qaida and the Taliban, and even as we fight terror, American compassion is providing an alternative to bitterness, resentment and hatred.

Staff Sgt. Lynn Irvin

Bagram, Afghanistan

## Evolution is still a theory

I would like to peacefully protest the publishing of the article "Study: Ability to run key to human evolution" in the Nov. 19 Stars and Stripes. In this article, the reporter provides "suggestions" gathered from observations and "2 million-year-old fossils" that the success of human beings as endurance runners "may be key to our early anatomical evolution, according to new review of past research."

The reporter assumes the theory of evolution is fact. Please note: I wrote "theory" instead of "fact." To date, evolution is still a theory, as creationism (man created by a higher power vs. evolving) is another theory. In fact, in the past 20 years, scientists have uncovered data that create disconnects in the original theory of evolution and the "big bang" theory.

Using critical-thinking skills and being educated on the theory of evolution, I see this article is also a prime example of how the media manipulate belief systems. This article is obviously pro-evolution; however, the article again misrepresents a theory as fact. I wonder if an article speaking to evidence found supporting creationism, as a fact, were submitted for publishing, would the editors of Stars and Stripes or the audience protest?

On the other hand, and on a more positive note, I do appreciate the description of the wonder of the human body and how it can work by design.

Tech Sgt. Kimberly Mann

Aviano Air Base, Italy

## Different view of Jesus

Dear confused in Greensboro, N.C.: Your comments in the letter "Jesus was a liberal" (Nov. 15) were completely uneducated, ignorant and irrational. You write as if every conservative believes in slavery, segregation and child labor, and doesn't want equal rights. I know the media and Hollywood want you to believe that, but it's just not true. Good ole Abe Lincoln did free the slaves. Then there is Gordon Liddy, a liberal, who was with Ronald Reagan. But who needs them when you have Hillary Clinton, Al Sharpton and 99 percent of San Francisco.

Now, you must have my Jesus confused with another Jesus, because my Jesus is stern. He believes in eye for an eye, you reap what you sow, and the Ten Commandments. My Jesus will show you the wrath of the almighty God if you hurt his people, for example: Egypt, the Roman Empire and Germany. Now that's my Jesus.

Also in response to the pre-emptive war statement: Were Sept. 11, the attack on the USS Cole, countless numbers of embassy bombings and hijackings not enough? "Only the dead have seen the end of war." —Plato

Senior Airman Tim Brittain

Iraq

## A separate comparison

I have heard and read quite a bit of rhetoric both for and against the American Civil Liberties Union recently. There is, however, one thing both sides should bear in mind: Although our Founding Fathers were strongly supportive of the separation of church and state, they were not strongly supportive of the separation of God and state—no matter what you choose to call Him (Allah, God, Yahweh, etc.).

Master Sgt. Ski Gruver

Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

## Doonesbury





## OMBUDSMAN

## On balance, Stripes had successful campaign

Since July I have been reading and clipping all stories from Stars and Stripes about the Nov. 2 election in the United States. Last week I organized them by categories and revealed them and made notes for this column.

## Ombudsman

The goal was to look at campaign coverage after the rhetoric was over and critique four aspects:

1. Was the coverage fair and balanced?
2. How well were the "surprise stories" of the campaign — President Bush's National Guard records and Sen. John Kerry's service in the Vietnam War — covered?

3. How much and how well was information provided to help the voters understand the issues and the positions of the candidates?

4. How well did Stripes do in urging voting by personnel serving overseas?

Stripes' core mission is to provide to our military personnel serving overseas the information they need so they can function as citizens and voters in our democratic society. Since most of the election news is in the States and most of Stripes' reporting staff is overseas, Stripes relied on The Associated Press and supplemental wire services operated by newspapers for nearly all of the coverage of the campaign. So judgments on Stripes' fairness and objectivity involve looking on the amount, the selection, the editing and the presentation of campaign news.

After the second reading, I pondered how to describe the performance of the editors. The words that kept coming to mind were: professional, consistent and credible.

Professional in that there was absolutely no evidence of editing decisions being made to favor one party or one candidate.

Consistent in that there was balance in terms of the stories covering surprise events, etc., with background information on issues and analysis.

Credible in that there was balance in presentation, both on Page 1 and inside pages, with news judgment being used — and not robotic editing in which each candidate receives the same-size headline or length of story.

However, in total there needs to be equality in volume and presentation, and there was.

Every presidential campaign has a surprise story. They are the hardest to cover. This year there were two. The first in timing was the Swift Boat Veterans for Truth and the only complaint about coverage I received was about one aspect of the coverage of that group.

A member of the U.S. Army wrote in August, "I am writing because I believe Stars and Stripes has failed to provide its readers with all the facts surrounding the Swift Boat Veterans for Truth. I have read numerous articles discussing this organization in your paper over the past couple of weeks. In none of these articles does Stars and Stripes mention the substantial membership (250+) and how many of these members actually served in combat with John Kerry. This fact is critical when their stories are consistently countered with the versions presented by Kerry and his very small Band of Brothers."

At that time I went back to my file and couldn't find in Stripes (or any other of six other daily papers I was reading) information on the number of Swift Boat veterans involved in the organization and their role in Vietnam. I pointed this out to the editorial director of Stripes and he said he would have his staff look for a story with details on the background of the Swift Boat Veterans for Truth and publish it. Stripes did publish an analysis piece by David Espo of The Associated Press titled "What did you do in the war, candidate? Vietnam-era actions hang over campaigns as Kerry comes under at-

# STARS AND STRIPES

Volume 83, No. 201 © EPS9 2004 THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2004 \$04

## 'America has spoken'

### After Kerry concedes, Bush vows 'every resource' to fight terror

Full election coverage, Pages 3-21



President Bush vows to support every effort to bring Osama bin Laden to justice. He also vowed to use every resource to fight terrorism.

#### Winning margin

Candidate	Popular vote	Electoral college
George W. Bush	30,388,000	308
Kerry	29,490,000	266

#### Conceding

Candidate	Conceding time
John Kerry	10:05 p.m.
George W. Bush	10:15 p.m.

Sen. John Edwards, D-ME, says Sen. John McCain, R-AZ, will not be at the White House. McCain's concession speech Wednesday in McCain's home state of Arizona.

task."

But it didn't mention the size and scope of the Swift Boat Veterans for Truth organization and no wire service stories then came across the desk at Stripes to provide such a number. By mid-September, the issue had died as far as the U.S. press was concerned.

The second "surprise story" of the campaign was about President Bush's service in the National Guard, which most journalists thought had been well gone over in the presidential campaign of 2000. The 2004 version broke in early September on "60 Minutes Wednesday." The story was about a National Guard memo that said "Bush refused an order."

A story in Stripes on Sept. 23 (Sept. 24 for Pacific editions) by David Bauder of The Associated Press stated, "CBS News admitted on Monday that it could not authenticate documents it had used in a '60 Minutes' story that questioned Bush's service in the Guard during the Vietnam War era. Many critics consider the document fake."

CBS News has appointed former Attorney

General Dick Thornburgh and former Associated Press chief executive Louis Boccia to investigate what went wrong with the story. A report is due soon.

There are lessons for both the media and public from this year's "surprise stories." The media need to triple-check sudden accusations in a heated political campaign before publication. The public must be wary of details until they are verified because it is so easy for rumors, opinion, hearsay to become "facts" by wide distribution on the Web and cable news broadcasts.

Twenty-four-hour cable news has become both a benefit and a cross for close followers of the news. A story often receives "breaking news" play in one newscast and then disappears. One week in the spring, I did a test on this issue. I kept track for five days of such "breaking news." Six out of 14 items never made print in any of the six daily newspapers I was reading.

For Stripes next time around (2008), I think it would be a significant help for its

readers if Stripes designates a writer/editor in the Washington office to follow such stories and, when the issue flares out, do a wrap-up that summarizes all of the verifiable facts and puts the story in perspective. This will be a service especially to those who have been paying special attention to that story, but also for those who have seen just some of the news stories on that issue.

In the age of 24-hour cable, the print media, in my opinion, will need to cope with these types of news situations much more often in order to give its readers the feeling that the paper is on top of the news. The best way to do that is through explanatory summary stories.

Stripes' handling of the third issue I examined — providing information to help the voters understand the issues and the positions of the candidates — was outstanding. Over the course of the campaign, Stripes published 18 "On the Issues" questions provided by The Associated Press with pictures and quotes from each presidential candidate in about 8 to 10 inches of space. The questions ranged from "Can the U.S. government achieve a balanced budget this decade?" to "Do you rule out a draft over the next four years?" to "Should girls be required to tell parents before having an abortion?" to "Under what conditions is the United States justified in taking pre-emptive military action against targets in another country?"

In addition, Stripes provided a package of information on Sept. 21 for Pacific editions with this principal headline on Page 1: "All you need to vote."

Below it were these two phrases (preceded by black boxes to attract the reader's eye): "Where Bush and Kerry stand on issues facing America" and "Complete state-by-state guide to candidates and initiatives."

The front-page announcement was a bit different for the Sept. 21 Europe and Mid-east editions ("State-by-state election guide inside"), but readers in those theaters got the same content inside.

The timing was early in the campaign because of the need of military personnel to send off absentee ballots.

On the fourth issue of getting out the vote, I counted a dozen stories that discussed, explained and urged military personnel to vote. The editors showed thought and effort in a nonpartisan way to encourage voting.

One last observation: Stripes wrapped up its campaign coverage with an excellent section on the day after the vote. It provided information on the votes for all key offices as well as a state-by-state roundup. In my career, that was one of my favorite projects, so I can appreciate the effort that Stripes put into making the section so complete.

A subsequent column will look at political letters to the editor during the campaign.

Send comments to Joe Ungaro at Ombudsman, Stars and Stripes, 529 44th St., NW, Suite 250, Washington, D.C. 20045-1301. Phone: (202) 364-6032; Fax: (202) 364-8096; or e-mail ombudsman@starsandstripes.com

## Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



# Horoscope

The moon in Scorpio passes Venus and Mars, activating relationships in a sensual way. Colors seem more vivid and sounds more hypnotic as we fall into the trance of animal attraction. This weekend has truly magical potential for relationships. As on New Year's Eve, make sure you're with the one you want to accompany you in the new year.

## TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

**(December 9).** Your environment improves drastically this year, giving you a winning outlook. New blessings on your family in the next seven weeks start the changes, and there come on quickly. May features career opportunity. Put in extra hours, and your financial reward allows you to travel and play in the summer. Pisces and Virgo are stellar partners.

## ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Friends need you. If you make it a habit to assist to your comfort level, you'll keep being asked for the same help over and over. Instead, stretch out your arms, and do all you can. Together, you can heal this once and for all.

## TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

For you, the time continuum generally keeps a plodding, consistent march forward—but not today. Time whizzes forward, whirrs and flips, and boomerangs back. You feel like you're in an experimental film.

## GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

Independence is sexy—at least the way you do it. You're strong and can take care of yourself. Finances improve as a result. Of course, just when you've got it all together, love steps in to confuse and bewilder you.

## CANCER (June 22-July 22)

The famous sociologist Erving Goffman claimed that we are all actors portraying ourselves. Today, you see through all that acting and make people forget their lines.

## LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

You work on your skills until the cows come home, but it's not your

skills that will ultimately bring you the success you crave. The right attitude, coupled with the latest information, brings victory. Seek a qualified mentor.

## VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Team effort is where it's at. With your allies, you'll face your rivals head on and meet much less opposition than you thought was there. Trust is key. Keep all your agreements, no matter how inconvenient.

## LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

You'll be the recipient of flattery and automatically wonder what your flatterer is up to. Your natural skepticism keeps you from falling to the ranks of the blissfully oblivious, but relax. Your admirer speaks the truth.

## SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)

It's hard to find anything you hate more than being told what to do. If people suggest that they know better even through a vocal tone or slanted eyebrow, they'll find themselves "talking to the hand."

## SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

You may make that figurative journey to the top of the mountain and meet not a wise sage, guru or holy man but an enlightened version of yourself. How does it feel to have all the answers?

## CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

There are tangible serious things at stake, that keep you in a diplomatic mode of operation. Though it's easier to grin and bear the wrongs of others, it's not better for your long-term bottom line. Be truthful.

## AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

There are too many openings for misinterpretation now to try and have a meaningful conversation, so keep it light. If you're thinking of upgrading your operating system, do research now but do not insert a single disk.

## PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

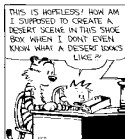
Mechanical devices come in extremely handy. A techie friend is there to help you figure them out, but beware—it could take all day. To avoid frustration, leave enough time. New and nerdy knowledge is ever so appealing!

Creators Syndicate

## Holiday Mathis



## Calvin and Hobbes



## Jump Start



## Zits



## Cathy



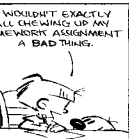
## Hi and Lois



## Beetle Bailey



## Red Rover



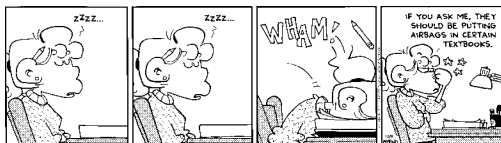
## Better or Worse



## Peanuts



Fotrot



B.C.



Baby Blues



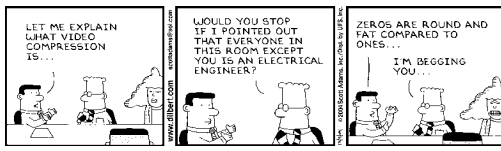
Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



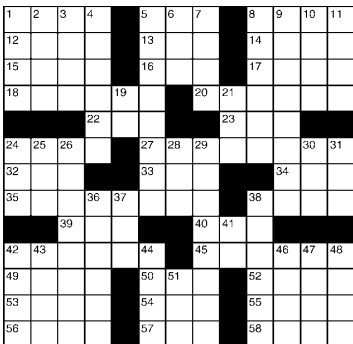
Hagar



Garfield



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword



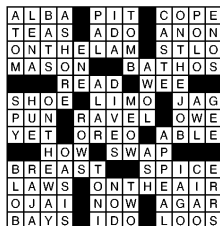
## Across

- 1 Stereo hookup
- 5 "Cabaret" lyricist
- 8 Fixed hems
- 12 Particular
- 13 Meadow
- 14 "I cannot tell —"
- 15 Strikethrough
- 16 Couple from Tennessee?
- 17 Comic Jay
- 18 Seafood selection
- 20 Paradise
- 22 Scrooge's mutter
- 23 "I — Rock"
- 24 Genealogy chart
- 27 Liquid appetizer
- 32 Tin Man's need
- 33 Zilch
- 34 Bobby of hockey
- 35 Brunch entree
- 38 Talk like an ass
- 39 More, to Manuel
- 40 Moo — gai pan
- 42 Detective
- 45 Crocheted blanket
- 49 Breather
- 50 Grecian vessel
- 52 DNA component
- 53 Vow
- 54 Fond du —, Wis.
- 55 Reply to "Shall we?"
- 56 Smooch
- 57 Sailor's assent
- 58 Tend texts

## Down

- 1 Greet the villain
- 2 Craving
- 3 "Factor"
- 4 Drink
- 5 GOP mascot
- 6 Ponderosa
- 7 Wild party
- 8 Deli order
- 9 Lift
- 10 Sommelier's concern
- 11 Night light
- 19 Bell or Barker
- 21 Corn spike
- 24 Excessively
- 25 Edge
- 26 Periodic Table list
- 28 Trench
- 29 Polish alternative
- 30 401(k)
- 31 Saute
- 36 Music to 17-Across' ears
- 37 Superlative suffix
- 38 Word-finding game
- 41 "— course"
- 42 Oscar Madison, e.g.
- 43 Waikiki
- 44 ... and its entertainment
- 46 Pay attention
- 47 Con
- 48 Fit in snugly
- 51 Bob's longtime partner

## Answer to Previous Puzzle



## 12-9

## CRYPTOQUIP

XS OSH WYZKLY GBJG J  
LYAO USUHZZA NSJU SUYAJ  
NBSHZX WY XHWWYX J

BSG NYAKJZ?  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN NUCLEAR CHEMISTS PASS AWAY, I SUPPOSE IT'S COMPLETELY SUITABLE TO BARIUM.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: G equals T

# In-laws' 'tip' should be accepted

**Dear Abby:** My in-laws, who live seven hours away, spent last night in our guest room. They arrived late and had already eaten dinner on the road. My husband was away on business, and my in-laws and I had fun talking, laughing and sharing stories.

This morning I got dressed, spoke with them for a few minutes and left for work. They had the run of the house. I encouraged them to sleep late, help themselves to whatever was in the kitchen, and lock the door behind them when they left.

When I returned from work I noticed they had left a sweet note and a \$50 bill! My husband says they did it to be nice and I should accept the money. My mother says I should take the money and buy new sheets for the guest room.

I feel terrible. I don't know why they left the money. My husband and I both work and earn good money. Our house

isn't as nice as theirs, but we've been married for only two years. My first reaction was to return the money with a brief note explaining that we don't charge for hospitality.

My husband says that would be cruel. Your thoughts, please.

— **Hurt in Wisconsin**

**Dear Abby**



**Dear Hurt:** I'm sure no insult was intended. The money was a gift, so accept it graciously in the spirit it was given. Your mother's suggestion to put it toward new sheets for the guest room is a good one. The next time your in-laws visit, show them that you used the money to make them more comfortable. I'm sure they'll be touched.

**Dear Abby:** My daughter, "Victoria," is 20. She attends college and is engaged to a 27-year-old man I'll call Albert. They have been engaged for about a year and have lived

together for two. They plan to be married in the fall of 2005.

Victoria and Albert think I should pay him for her rent and other expenses for the two years she has been living with him. It adds up to about \$8,000. I think that since Victoria is living with him, Albert should be the provider. My daughter is an adult, and I know I am not obligated to support her. But I want to do the right thing.

Frankly, I do not approve of their living arrangement. Neither of them is speaking to me because I haven't given them the money. Should I pay for something I don't agree with?

— **Confused in California**

**Dear Confused:** I have wracked my brain trying to come up with one single reason why you should — and I can't come up with even one. And if your daughter's fiancé were much of a man, he wouldn't ask you to.

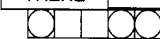
Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 6940, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at: <http://www.uepress.com/dearabby>

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## JUMBLE

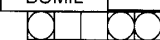
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

**TREXE**



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**BOMIL**

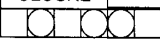


**FRILCO**



[www.jumble.com](http://www.jumble.com)

**CLUSKE**



A: " " OF " "

Yesterday's

Jumbles: PRUNE WHEAT MIDWAY CROUCH

Answer: When the soldiers had a spelling contest, it turned into — A "WORD" WAR

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argiron



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

# Mom fears son rebounding badly

**Dear Annie:** My 20-year-old son, "Todd," is a college student who lives at home. Recently, his long-term girlfriend broke up with him, essentially saying he wasn't good enough for her. Todd was heartbroken. He had planned to marry her when they finished college.

A week after she broke up with him, Todd met another girl, "Heidi." Here's my problem. He met Heidi on Sunday, and by Tuesday, he practically moved in with her. Oh, he comes home every day to shower, change clothes and get his mail, but he hasn't slept in his own bed since he met her.

I know Todd is 20 years old, and I accept that he is sexually active, but it bothers me that he's on the rebound and won't admit it.

I think he's using Heidi in a big way. Todd insists he wants a long-term relationship. I've never met Heidi, but I get the impression she is emotionally fragile and needy, just like Todd. I think he's acting like a jerk, but talking to

**Annie's Mailbox**



him does not good. Worse, Todd's behavior sets a terrible example for his two younger siblings.

We don't want Todd to move out, because we believe that would push him further into this unhealthy relationship.

— **Stressed-Out Mom**

**Dear Stressed-Out:** Rebound relationships can be devastating if one person is more

invested than the other. Unfortunately, there isn't much you can do. Todd needs consolation, and he's found someone to provide it.

If your younger children are teenagers, you can discuss this with them, explaining why we disapprove of Todd's behavior. Eventually, they may see for themselves that Todd's hasty decision was misguided.

You might try to meet Heidi. You are making assumptions based on Todd's presumed state of mind, and it would be a good idea to see exactly what's what.

**Dear Annie:** This is for "Albany," who wants to reconcile with his 40-year-old daughter, but she can't forgive him for divorcing her mother and marrying the woman he had an affair with. He should respect his daughter's wishes and stop contacting her. He decided on this tradeoff when he left his wife for another woman.

This is happening in my home right now. I neither encourage nor discourage our children to see their father. Slowly and surely he slips away more and more from them.

— **Ex-Wife in Lubbock, Texas**

**Dear Ex-Wife:** We received a huge number of responses from bitter ex-spouses who agree with you. However, the relationship between a parent and child is different, and if there is any possibility of forgiveness and reconciliation, we think it's better than endless punishment and permanent estrangement.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to [anniesmailbox@comcast.net](mailto:anniesmailbox@comcast.net), or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

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## Family Circus



12-9

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"Daddy, you who repair my sandwich? I didn't want it cut in two."

## GRAFFITI

The only thing that separates a prober from a bookie is his education.

WBA 12/9

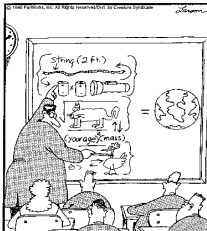
## Domis the Menace



"WHEN I GET OLD ENOUGH, I'M GONNA VOTE TO MAKE WINTER LAST ALL YEAR."

## © Gary Larson

## The Far Side



Creationism explained

## Non Sequitur



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# Senior-laden No. 5 Cowboys beat No. 4 Orange in Jimmy

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Oklahoma State has a roster even a longtime coach like Eddie Sutton loves to have.

There are six seniors on the Cowboys, a team that reached the Final Four last season. Nothing makes a coach feel better than a roomful of seniors.

The upperclassmen played a big role in the fifth-ranked Cowboys' 74-60 victory over No. 4 Syracuse on Tuesday night in the Jimmy V Classic.

"The seniors did a great job when we broke the game open and got ahead," said Sutton, who picked up win No. 761. "The seniors played the way they should play. I didn't think we played as well as we can, but we played better in the second half. Every coach thrives on a victory in the hallclub, especially because we went to the Final Four last year."

Stephen Graham, Joey Graham and Ivan McFarlin, all seniors, each had 16 points for the Cowboys (6-0) and John Lucas and Daniel Bobik, two other members of that class, each hit a big three-pointer in the second half.

"They have six seniors. I don't think anybody has that kind of experience and they have a great coach," Syracuse coach Jim Boeheim said. "That was a tremendous physical defensive battle. We played defensively as well as we can tonight."

Stephen Graham had two three-point plays as Oklahoma State pulled away from a 45-41

## Men's Top 25 roundup

throw line.

"That second half, we probably played as well as we can play," Sutton said. "That first half, I told them they played like they had never been coached. That first half was one of the worst halves I've seen in a long, long time."

Bobik hit a three with 7 minutes left to give the Cowboys a 45-41 lead. Lucas then hit a three-pointer — his first field goal — to break that last tie and start a 17-4 run that included Graham's two big plays.

Ivan McFarlin scored with 2:20 to go to cap the run and give Oklahoma State a 62-49 lead.

Gerry McNamara hit three threes in the closing 1:23 to get Syracuse within 66-60, but the Orange couldn't get any closer. McFarlin had 12 rebounds as the Cowboys finished with a 46-33 advantage on the boards.

Josh Pace had 20 points, two off his career-high, for Syracuse, while McNamara had 18 and Hakim Warrick 13. Warrick, a career 64 percent free-throw shooter, was just 5-for-13 from the line and Syracuse was 7-for-22.

"Offensively, we have to get some help for our three veterans who are playing really well," said Boeheim, whose own team stayed at 683. "If we don't get some help, we're going to struggle against

good teams and Oklahoma State is as good as anybody in the country."

Oklahoma State's physical man-to-man defense and Syracuse's vaunted 2-3 zone lived up to their billings. Syracuse held a 22-21 halftime lead with neither team able to shoot better than 36 percent.

It didn't get much better for the offenses in the second half until Oklahoma State started to score in transition to break the game open.

"In the first half, we were a little too passive against the zone," McFarlin said. "In the second half, we ran the transition really well."

**No. 11 Pittsburgh 70, Memphis 51:** At New York, Carl Krusier scored all but two of his 17 points in the free-throw line for the first game in the Jimmy V Classic.

Chris Taft had 13 points and 10 rebounds for Pittsburgh, which opened with a 12-2 run and had its first 20-point lead at 30-10 with 9:04 left in the first half.

Rodney Carney led the Tigers (5-3) with 18 points.

**No. 14 Texas 86, North Texas 57:** At Austin, Texas, Brad Bruckman scored 18 points and blocked seven shots to lead the Longhorns (6-1).

Leonard Hopkins scored 13 to lead North Texas (3-3).

**No. 16 Washington 98, San Diego St. 69:** At Seattle, Nate Robinson scored 24 points and



Oklahoma State guard John Lucas, right, drives for a layup against Syracuse forward Hakim Warrick on Tuesday night at Madison Square Garden in New York. Oklahoma State defeated Syracuse 74-60.

Tre Simmons added a career-high 23 points for the Huskies (6-1), off to their best start since 1997-98.

Marcus Slaughter had 21 points for San Diego State (4-2).

**No. 17 Iowa 76, N. Iowa 73:** At Iowa City, Iowa, Greg Brunner scored 23 points and the Hawkeyes (7-1) held off a late rally by Northern Iowa (3-2).

Jacobson scored 25 points for the Panthers.

**No. 18 Alabama 72, Alabama St. 54:** At Montgomery, Ala., Kennedy Winston scored 21 points and Chuck Davis had 18 points and nine rebounds for the Crimson Tide (7-0).

Reserve George Savage had 14 points to lead the Hornets (1-4).

**No. 24 Wisconsin 65, Wisconsin-Green Bay 55:** At Madison, Wis., Mike Wilkinson scored 18 points and Wisconsin (5-1) extended the longest home winning streak in Division I to 32 games. Josh Lawrence and Javier Mendiburu each scored 10 points to lead Wisconsin-Green Bay (4-2).

**No. 25 Gonzaga 54, Washington St. 52:** At Pullman, Wash., Ronny Turiaf scored 17 points for the Bulldogs (6-1).

Josh Akognon and Randy Green led Washington State (3-3) with 12 points each.

# Malone won't return to Lakers because of Bryant's comments

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Karl Malone has ruled out a return to the Los Angeles Lakers because of comments made by Kobe Bryant in a radio interview, Malone's agent said Tuesday.

"Karl is furious," agent Dwight Manley told The Associated Press. "He felt very disrespected and betrayed after personally being the first to stand up for Kobe over the last year throughout his rape charge and all he went through."

Manley said remarks made by Bryant on Monday, coupled with what the agent called "recent personal attacks made in private," led Malone to his decision.

Asked if Malone might play elsewhere, Manley replied, "This certainly opens up that possibility."

Manley first told radio station KMPX of Malone's decision. "Karl made the decision Tuesday that he would rather say 'those strong words on saying I'm not coming back,'" Manley said.

"I didn't come to take anyone's glory, anybody's accolades, anybody's anything," Malone told KCBS-TV in a telephone interview.

"But if it seems to me that that

## NBA briefs

is what I'm doing, then I would rather move and turn the page in my life.

"If that's your star player, you want him to want you on the team, right? I don't want to be anybody's distraction."

Bryant told XTRA on Monday he didn't believe Malone, who is recovering from knee surgery, would come back to the Lakers, calling it "just intuition."

"It's not really fair to hold it over the guys' heads that he here," Bryant said. "The guys that we have here are working hard, practicing hard every day. It's kind of tough for them to be looking over their shoulder, wondering if he's going to come back and the everybody is going to disappear."

"They are here giving me 110 percent. It's really not fair for us to sit around and speculate how long this is going to go on, to mean, you can't sit up here and speculate for the remainder of the season whether or not he is going to come back. I mean, that's not fair to the guys that are working here."

Lakers General Manager Mitch Kupchak said in a state-

ment he hoped Manley's comments did not accurately reflect Malone's feelings about returning to the Lakers.

"If so, it is unfortunate that he would make such a decision based on the reason given," the statement added. "Kobe Bryant's interview ... merely reflected his personal opinion that Karl would probably not return to play this season. Kobe did not at any time state that Karl was not returning, nor was Kobe speaking on behalf of the Lakers management or organization."

Malone, 41, told the Lakers on Oct. 1 he was still recovering from arthroscopic surgery he underwent three months earlier on his right knee and wasn't ready to play. But he didn't rule out returning at some point this season or beyond.

Malone, the second-leading scorer in NBA history, opted out of his \$16.5 million contract following last season, making him a free agent.

**Sprewell suspended one game for comments made to fan**

NEW YORK — Latrell Sprewell was suspended for one game by the NBA on Tuesday for yelling a sexual vulgarity at a female fan during a game, the latest

episode of a player clashing with spectators.

The penalty was harsher than those issued in the past by the league office for on-court outbursts. The NBA has been particularly concerned about conflicts between players and fans following a nasty brawl in Detroit 2½ weeks ago that spilled into the stands.

Sprewell responded to a female heckler with a sexually vulgar term that was clearly picked up by a court-side microphone and broadcast by television stations KTLA in Los Angeles and KSTC in Minnesota.

**Cavaliers' Traylor out with broken finger**

CLEVELAND — Cavaliers forward Robert Traylor will miss three to four weeks after breaking his left pinkie against the New Jersey Nets.

Traylor, a reserve averaging 5.1 points and 4.0 rebounds, was placed on the injured list. Cleveland activated Scott Williams for Wednesday night's game against Chicago. Williams is averaging 2.2 points and 1.7 rebounds in 10 games.

Traylor has been a nice addition for the Cavaliers, who signed him as a free agent this summer.

The six-year veteran has been used to fill in forward and to back up center Zydrunas Ilgauskas.

**Clippers' Brand suspended one game for shoving Okafor**

NEW YORK — Elton Brand of the Los Angeles Clippers was suspended for one game Tuesday by the NBA for shoving Charlotte's Emeka Okafor during the fourth quarter of Monday night's Charlotte Los Angeles game.

Brand whined and delivered a hard shove to Okafor's face and was immediately ejected. The foul was judged a category two flagrant foul.

Brand must sit out the Clippers' game Friday night against the Los Angeles Lakers.

**Nets sign top CBA scorer EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J.**

Forward Kaniel Dickens, the leading scorer in the CBA, was signed by the New Jersey Nets on Wednesday.

The Nets also waived forward Avery Storey and placed center Jabari Smith on the injured list with a sprained left ankle.

Dickens was averaging 29.4 points and 9.6 rebounds with the Idaho Stampede. He was shooting a league-leading 57.1 percent from three-point range.

# Union gets OK to work toward steroid agreement

By BETH DEFALCO

The Associated Press

**PHOENIX** — Baseball players told their lawyers to work toward a new agreement with owners on tougher testing for steroids.

After negotiations with management were outlined to the executive board of the players' association Tuesday, union head Donald Fehr said the board "authorized us to attempt to conclude an agreement consistent with those discussions."

Commissioner Bud Selig reportedly has called for more frequent testing and harsher penalties for steroid use, stepping up

the intensity following reports of grand jury testimony in a steroid investigation that includes Barry Bonds, Jason Giambi and Gary Sheffield.

Euse Orza, the union's chief operating officer, said Monday that discussions toward a new agreement had advanced but the sides were still apart. Management expects talks to resume next week.

"We're very pleased they're coming to the table, and we hope we can achieve a program that works," said Bob DuPuy, baseball's chief operating officer.

About 40 players were present at the meeting, union spokesman

Greg Bouris said. Players leaving the meeting declined comment or said they "could not" discuss what was said during the talks.

"I'm happy to see the union come together. We really need to clear up the public perception of what's going on," Oakland outfielder Eric Byrnes said from California in a phone interview Tuesday night. "It's been tough, because we haven't had a voice."

"The biggest thing is that the public knows it's not just about steroids as media and some outside sources are making it out to be."

"Do I think it's right? No, absolutely not. In every walk of life, in every profession for hundreds of

years, people have been looking to get an advantage. The kids, who are the most important part of this thing, need to know that this isn't OK."

Fehr defended the current program, saying it would work if "it had been given time."

"The preliminary indications, although I cannot go into details, are that the testing program we had this year had some pretty significant, positive effects," he said. "That doesn't mean, given the experience we had, that there can't be amendments that would be even better."

Fehr said he and Arizona Sen. John McCain, who has threat-

ened to propose federal legislation that would override the drug-testing provisions in baseball's collective bargaining agreement, spoke earlier in the week. Fehr expected they would talk again before the meeting ended Tuesday.

Each player was tested once in 2004 during a period between the start of spring training and the end of the regular season.

In 2003, anonymous tests were conducted as a survey, and 5 to 7 percent came back positive. Fehr thought the number of positive tests declined this year, but didn't provide specifics.

"What you will see is a significant reduction," he said.

## Cubs re-sign Garciaparra; Radke stays in Minnesota

By RONALD BLUM

The Associated Press

**NEW YORK** — Nomar Garciaparra stayed with the Chicago Cubs, Brad Radke remained with Minnesota and the New York Yankees looked ahead to deals with

pitcher Jared Wright and second baseman Tony Womack as the first big deadline passed for teams and free agents.

On a day when 13 free agents agreed to contracts, St. Louis kept pitchers Matt Morris and Cal Eldred, along with outfielder John Mabry on Tuesday.

Forty-one players were offered arbitration by the midnight deadline, up from 25 last year. Carlos Beltrán and Roger Clemens (Houston), Adrian Beltre (Los Angeles) and Carl Pavano (Florida) were among those given arbitration offers; they will until Dec. 19 to accept and can re-sign with their former teams through Jan. 8.

Among those not offered arbitration were third baseman Troy Glaus, the 2002 World Series MVP (Anaheim); first baseman Carlos Delgado (Toronto); outfielder Steve Finley (Los Angeles); outfielder Maglio Ordonez (Chicago White Sox) and pitchers Eric Milton and Kevin Millwood (Philadelphia).

Garciaparra agreed to an \$8 million, one-year contract to remain with the Cubs, the team that acquired him from the Red Sox at the end of July. If he stays healthy, he could make up to \$11 million with Chicago.

"I really loved playing there, I really loved the experience I had in the short time I was there," he said. "I just felt Chicago is the best place for me. I'm looking forward to going out there and, hopefully, turning this into a long-term relationship."

Radke got an \$18 million, two-year deal from the Twins. He went 11-8 with a 3.48 ERA in 219 1/3 innings last season, teaming with Al Cy Young Award winner Johan Santana to form an outstanding duo at the top of Minnesota's rotation.

"I think it turned out for the best for both sides," Radke said. "It feels good. You know, the Twins always said that I was their top priority to sign this year and I feel the same way. I feel the Twins were my



**Nomar Garciaparra agreed to an \$8 million, one-year contract with the Chicago Cubs on Tuesday. Garciaparra, who was traded to the Cubs from the Boston Red Sox at the end of July, could make up to \$11 million if he stays healthy.**

first priority, and I'm just glad it got done."

St. Louis completed a trio of deals just before the midnight deadline. Morris, a 22-game winner in 2003, got 15-10 with a 4.72 ERA last season, got a \$2.5 million, one-year contract and the chance to earn \$4.5 million more in performance bonuses. Mabry (\$725,000) and Eldred (\$600,000) also got one-year deals.

Wright, who will turn 29 on Dec. 29, went 15-8 with a 3.28 ERA in a big comeback season with the Atlanta Braves this year, but lost both his starts in the playoffs. New York offered salary arbitration to Jon Lieber and Orlando Hernandez before Tuesday's midnight deadline, giving the team until Jan. 8 to re-sign two key members of last season's rotation.

However, Lieber appeared headed for Philadelphia or Cleveland.

The Yankees also reached a preliminary agreement with Womack on a \$4 million, two-year contract, giving New York a starting second baseman to replace Miguel Cairo.

While no announcements were made, both Yankees deals were confirmed by a baseball official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Womack's agreement was subject to him passing a physical. After undergoing elbow surgery before last season, the speedy lead-off hitter helped the Cardinals reach the World Series, batting .307 with 26 stolen bases and 91 runs.

In addition to Garciaparra, Chicago agreed to a \$2.5 million, one-year contract

with second baseman Todd Walker, and a \$2.7 million, two-year contract with catcher Henry Blanco.

Philadelphia agreed to a \$5.25 million, two-year deal with left-hander Rhee Cornier, Seattle settled on a \$1.75 million, one-year contract with Chad Wilson, the New York Mets held on to right-hander Mike DeJean for \$1.15 million and Baltimore kept outfielder B.J. Surhoff for \$1.1 million.

Houston agreed to two deals, an \$800,000, one-year contract with outfielder Orlando Palmeiro and a minor league contract with right-hander Russ Springer. Also, right-hander Kevin Appier launched another comeback bid, agreeing to a minor league contract with the Kansas City Royals.

Boston offered arbitration to Martinez, Derek Lowe and Jason Varitek along with shortstop Orlando Cabrera, pitchers Pedro Astacio and Mike Myers, infielder Pokey Reese and first baseman David McCarty.

"Some of them were offered arbitration with the understanding they won't accept arbitration," Red Sox General Manager Theo Epstein said. "That simply extends our window. Sometimes making good decisions takes time."

In addition, teams get amateur draft picks as compensation when they offer arbitration to top free agents who sign elsewhere.

Because of that, several deals that were close to completion will be finalized later this week.

## Left-hander Lieber back with Marlins

The Associated Press

**MIAMI** — Al Leiter signed a one-year contract with the Florida Marlins on Wednesday, leaving the New York Mets and returning to the team he helped pitch to the 1997 World Series title.

The 39-year-old left-hander had spent seven years with the Mets, going 10-8 with a 3.21 ERA last season. The Mets did not offer him salary arbitration before Tuesday's midnight deadline, allowing the Marlins to sign him without giving up a draft choice.

Lieber, a South Florida resident, pitched for the Marlins in 1996 and 1997. He pitched the team's first no-hitter in 1996 and left the Marlins after the World Series season for the Mets. He also pitched in the 2000 World Series, where the Mets lost to the New York Yankees.

He joins a rotation that features right-handers Josh Beckett and A.J. Burnett, left-hander Dontrelle Willis. The Marlins have also offered arbitration to their top four starters, Carl Pavano, who was 18-8 with a 3.00 ERA before choosing free agency after the season.

## White Sox cut ties with OF Ordonez

The Associated Press

**CHICAGO** — The Chicago White Sox cut ties with Maglio Ordonez on Tuesday, declining to offer him arbitration to their All-Star right fielder.

By not offering Ordonez arbitration, the White Sox lost their right to re-sign him until May 1. They also won't get any compensation if he signs with another team.

Ordonez is a career .307 hitter with 187 homers and 73 RBIs, but the decision was surprising because the White Sox were never able to evaluate his surgically repaired left knee. Ordonez only played 52 games last season because of the injury, and had a second surgery in September.

"There are other things we are focused on right now," General Manager Kenny Williams said Monday.

Ordonez missed 36 games after injuring his left knee May 19, then went on the disabled list for good on July 22 with bone marrow edema. Ordonez is scheduled to hold a workout at this weekend's winter meetings, but that was too late for the White Sox, who couldn't risk offering him arbitration without more details on his health.



A WEEKLY LOOK AT LOCAL SPORTS

# Maxey making mark on mat

## Winner of Far East title last year serves notice in DODDS-Europe

BY RUSTY BRYAN  
Stars and Stripes

**W**HEN you're the new kid on the block, you can't waste time making your mark. It didn't take long for the European wrestling community to learn the name of Ramstein High School senior transfer Cole Maxey.

"When I was wrestling my first match Saturday," Maxey said before Tuesday's practice at Ramstein, "I thought, 'right now would be the perfect time to let people know I'm here.'"

Never mind that Maxey had already informed the European football world of his presence, making the All-Europe team at linebacker. This is wrestling, where success is based on individual effort.

Maxey, a 215-pounder who won the Far East championship last season at Kaduna High School on Okinawa, made the most of his chance in the opening meet of the season on his home mat. He defeated Kaiserslautern's Rocky Fischer and Patch's Joey Pirez en route to the meet title at 215.

It was the opening salvo in his quest to add a European title to his Pacific crown, a feat that would make Maxey a "DODDS world champion."

"It would be kind of neat to be able to say I'm a champion on two continents," Maxey said with a smile.

To accomplish that feat, Maxey will have to overcome some of Europe's best wrestlers: Ansbach's Mike Ewing, runner-up at that weight last season; and SHAPE's Richard Rendon, third at 189 last season.

Maxey, who began wrestling five years ago, looks forward to the challenge.

"I look at guys like Ewing and think, 'It's neat to have a chance to compete against guys like that.'"

In addition to the personal challenges, Maxey is having to adjust to the American college rules used in DODDS-Europe. It's

a bigger change than one might guess, particularly after the takeover.

"In the Far East, we wrestled freestyle," Maxey said. "In freestyle, if you're on the mat and there's not much happening, they get you up. In this style, you keep wrestling. I've had to learn to wrestle on the mat, too."

So far, the change hasn't been a big impediment.

"Cole has been very quick to recognize the differences [between the two styles]," Ramstein coach David Izzo said. "He's forced himself to cope with them."

Maxey also is benefiting from top-level help in making the change, assistance Izzo calls Ramstein's "secret weapon."

Math teacher Gary Steffensmeier "is an assistant in name only," Izzo said. "He was a three-time All-American at Northern Iowa and a two-time Iowa state champion in high school. He brings that Iowa intensity to our practices."

Maxey gives the Ramstein coaches a good base from which to build, according to training partner James Horst, Ramstein's 275-pounder.

"He's strong," Horst said. "He's a good wrestler."

Added John Winston, a 189-pound sophomore who's also a transfer: "He has good mat sense. He has a really good feel for what's happening on the mat. If you're behind him, he forms a really good picture of where you are and what the situation is."

For Maxey and his team, the situation looks good. There are strong newcomers, including Maxey, Winston and Ohio transfer Cory Rinehardt — a freshman who beat European runner-up Jose Figueroa last week in a 135-pound bout. There are also solid returnees, such as Noah Sheppard and Logan Ralfornth.

"You can feel good about your own wrestling," Maxey said, "but it makes it better if the whole team does well."

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RUSTY BRYAN/Stars and Stripes

Cole Maxey of Ramstein executes a fireman's carry takedown move against teammate James Horst during practice Tuesday at Ramstein High School. Maxey, a 215-pounder, transferred to Europe this year after winning a DODDS-Pacific title last season.

## ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

### Justin Jennings

Boys basketball  
Würzburg

**Last week:** Jennings, a 6-foot-3 senior guard, scored 15 points in Würzburg's 32-31 victory over Ramstein, including a three-point shot that proved to be the game-winner.

Jennings responded just like coach Allen Archie expected.

"He was outstanding," Archie said after Saturday's home victory. "He took control of the game in the last two minutes."

With Ramstein holding a 31-29 lead, Jennings worked himself clear on the right side at the top of the key and drained the three-pointer.

Jennings scored 12 points in Friday's season-opening non-conference 46-38 road victory over Bamberg, but his decisive bucket against Ramstein ensured Würzburg of at least a share of the Division I lead going into the holiday break.

Heidelberg, which plays at Ramstein on Saturday, is the only team with an opportunity to match the Wolves' 1-0 conference mark before the new year.

Selected by Stars and Stripes staff.



### Anisha Ingram

Girls basketball  
Kaiserslautern

**Last week:** Ingram, a 5-foot-6 sophomore transfer from Hawaii, made her European high school debut by sparking Kaiserslautern to a 41-30 victory over Würzburg last weekend, 47-16 over Patch on Friday and 41-40 over Hanau on Saturday.

Ingram, who attended Kaiserslautern schools before going to Hawaii, scored nine points against Patch, but saved her best for Hanau, scoring 16 points and grabbing eight rebounds.

"Her coming out didn't really happen until the second half of the Patch game, when she started to feel more comfortable and started to control the offensive end of the floor for us," K-town coach Corey Sullivan said.

Points and rebounds aside, Sullivan cited some of Ingram's intangibles.

"She's the type of player who makes all her teammates better," she said.

Selected by Stars and Stripes staff.



### This week's schedule

**Basketball**  
**Friday**  
Division II — Mannheim at Patch; Hanau at Black Forest Academy.  
**Turkey** — Ircilik at Ankara.  
**Nonconference** — Gießen at Kaiserslautern; Heidelberg at Ansbach; Hohenfels at Würzburg; AINORTH at Alconbury; Lakenheath at SHAPE; London Central at Baumholder; Aviano and Livorno at Milan; Signella at Naples; Vienna at American Overseas School of Rome.

**Saturday**  
Division I — Heidelberg at Ramstein; Lakenheath at International School of Brussels.  
Division II — Hanau at Black Forest Academy; Bitburg at SHAPE.  
**Italy** — Aviano and Livorno at Milan; Signella at Naples; Vienna at American Overseas School of Rome.  
**Turkey** — Ircilik at Ankara.  
**Nonconference** — Wiesbaden at Mannheim; Bamberg at Würzburg; AINORTH at Alconbury; Patch at Ansbach; AINORTH at Alconbury; London Central at Baumholder.

**Marksmanship**  
**Saturday**  
At Gießen: Baumholder, Hanau, Heidelberg, AINORTH, Mannheim, Patch, Würzburg.  
At Völk: Bamberg, Hohenfels, Vienna.

**Wrestling**  
**Saturday**  
At Alconbury: American Overseas School of Rome, Naples, Signella, Vienna.

At Heidelberg: AINORTH, Ansbach, Baumholder, Gießen, Würzburg.  
At SHAPE: American School in London, Alconbury, Brussels, Lakenheath, London Central, Merwath Hill, Ramstein.  
At Völk: Hohenfels, Kaiserslautern, Patch.  
At Wiesbaden: Bamberg, Bitburg, Hanau, Mannheim.

### Game of the week

**Mannheim at Patch**  
**When:** 7 p.m. Friday  
**Where:** Patch barracks, Vaihingen (near Stuttgart)

**What's at stake:** Division II league lead. Mannheim and Patch start their conference seasons before the break, a situation "I'd rather open the conference season, but doesn't particularly prefer."

"I'd rather open the conference season, but doesn't particularly prefer." Mannheim coach John Crockett accepts but doesn't particularly prefer. Mannheim "should win against Ansbach" (a 72-61 victory last Friday) and "didn't shoot well Saturday" (a 47-29 loss to Heidelberg). Crockett said.

He said Patch's Neil Griffin concerns him. "He's a good player," Crockett said. Patch (2-1) will be attempting to erase the sting of its road loss to Division I power Kaiserslautern the previous Friday.



# Urban renewal under way at Florida

## After whirlwind weekend, Meyer arrives in Gainesville ready to work

By MARK LONG  
The Associated Press

GAINESSVILLE, Fla. — When Urban Meyer moved from Notre Dame to Bowling Green to Utah in five years, he explained the relocations to his three children by telling them he was like a mountain climber trying to get to the top.

After accepting the Florida job last week, his 6-year-old son simply asked, "Daddy, are you there yet?"

Meyer smiled and responded, "Yes, this is the top."

Few would disagree. The former Utah coach was formally introduced at Florida on Tuesday, getting a campus tour and meeting his new team for the first time since agreeing to a three-year, \$14 million contract.

He said all the right things, too. He talked about winning championships, praised coach Steve Spurrier and said he has no aspirations to coach in the NFL. He



Florida's new head football coach Urban Meyer speaks to the media Tuesday in Gainesville, Fla.

even took shots at Florida State and Tennessee, recalling famed Spurrier lines about "Free Shoes University" and "You can't spell Citrus without UT."

"This is a place you can put your feet down hopefully for a long time," he said.

Although Meyer will coach the fifth-ranked Utes against No. 19 Pittsburgh in the Fiesta Bowl, he already has started working for the Gators. He called recruits over the weekend and began what will be a difficult month of transition from one program to the other.

He spent the weekend celebrating his team's Bowl Championship Series berth, had dinner with Florida athletic director Jeremy Foley on Monday and flew to Gainesville on a private jet with his wife and three children Tuesday morning.

Then he got a complete tour, capped by a visit to Ben Hill Griffin Stadium.

His eyes widened as he walked into "The Swamp" and noticed references to the six Southeastern Conference titles, the two Heisman Trophy winners and the

1996 national championship. He also saw an altered photo of himself — wearing an orange and blue Gators jacket — on both scoreboards along with a welcome message.

He already knew expectations would be high, but his trip into the recently renovated stadium made it a reality.

"Is it the toughest conference in the country? Absolutely. Is it one of the toughest schedules in the country? Absolutely. Can we recruit the best student-athletes in the country? Absolutely. It's a great challenge and it is different."

"To stand here and say that we had some great success at Bowling Green and some great success at Utah, we know we have to work that much harder to have great success here."

The Gators fired coach Ron Zook in October after a 20-13 record in two-plus seasons, several close losses, some notable late collapses and a heated encounter with members of a campus fraternity.

## Utah promotes Whittingham to head coach

The Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — Utah defensive coordinator Kyle Whittingham was hired as the school's football coach to replace Urban Meyer.

Whittingham rejected an offer from rival BYU to take the Utes' job. He was to be introduced at a news conference Wednesday. Utah sports information director Liz Abel said.

Whittingham will replace Meyer as Utah's coach following the Jan. 1 Fiesta Bowl. Meyer was introduced Tuesday as the new coach at Florida.

Whittingham was to have led the Utes' Tuesday practice, but didn't attend to consider the offers from his own schools.

Whittingham will have to start building his own staff immediately. Offensive coordinator Mike Sanford was hired Monday to coach UNLV, and both he and Meyer coach to have any number of assistant coaches with them.

# Illinois players satisfied Zook is right man for the job

By JIM PAUL  
The Associated Press

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — After Illinois fired football coach Ron Turner, some of the players he left behind started doing some research. They decided very quickly that Ron Zook would be a good fit for their team.

Turns out athletic director Ron Guenther agreed.

Zook became Illinois' 22nd head football coach Tuesday, and promised to turn around a program that has struggled to just four victories in the past two seasons.

"Once we heard the name Ron Zook, he was, I think, the players' choice," defensive tackle Ryan Mathia said. "He's the guy that all the players wanted to come in here. How Mr. Guenther picked him didn't know that, but it all worked out well."

Running back E.B. Halsey said he spent some time watching Zook's video highlights.

"You could just see that energy that he's going to bring to the sideline," Halsey said. "I saw [in] one clip he had to chest bump one of the players. Everybody's excited for that."

Zook, 50, takes over a program that Guenther decided had "reached a point of no return" in the recruiting department. The Illini have won only five Big Ten titles since winning the conference championship under Turner in 2001 and persuading blue-chip players to commit to the Illini had become difficult.

But Zook brings a reputation as a tireless recruiter.

"Recruiting is the lifeblood of college football," he said Tuesday. "It's a 24/7 job."

Zook said the third phone call

he made after taking the job late Monday afternoon — after calling his wife and brother — was to the coach of a player he had been trying to recruit.

Zook has a five-year contract at Illinois worth about \$10 million a year, said university spokeswoman Robin Kaler.

Guenther's search took 14 days and he said he talked to several candidates, although he would not identify them.

"I think this was a great process," said Interim Chancellor Richard Herman, who approved

Zook's hiring. "We really did search far and wide."

Zook was fired at Florida on Oct. 25, two days after the Gators lost at Mississippi State. But he coached the Gators for the rest of the season and led them to a 3-1 record in their final four games and an invitation to the Peach Bowl.

In three seasons at Florida, he went 23-14 with impressive victories over eventual national champion LSU last season and an upset of Florida State on Nov. 20, the Gators' first win in Tallahassee since 1986.

# Petrino staying put at Louisville

The Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Louisville coach Bobby Petrino said Tuesday he plans to stay with the Cardinals, taking himself off the market for teams with coaching vacancies.

"I want to make it clear that I'm not interested in any other coaching jobs, and am happy at the University of Louisville," Petrino said in a statement issued by the school.

The statement came after the Mississippi athletic director Pete Boone said that Petrino's agent had contacted him about that school's coaching vacancy. Boone said the agent later called back to say the coach was no longer interested.

Louisville athletic director Tom Jurich said Tuesday night he was worried he wouldn't be able to convince Petrino to stay. Jurich is an athletic director at one of these high-profile universities, he'd be the first guy on my list," Jurich said.

## College football briefs

"He's put together a magnificent product."

Petrino guided the Cardinals to a 10-1 record, a Conference USA championship this season and a No. 7 ranking, the highest in the school's history. His two-year mark at Louisville is 19-5.

The Cardinals will play Boise State in the Liberty Bowl on Dec. 31.

## Syracuse keeping Pasqualoni

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — For the third time in three years, Syracuse football coach Pat Pasqualoni has received a vote of confidence from athletic director Jake Crouthamel, and Chancellor Nancy Cantor announced Monday night that Pasqualoni would return in 2005 for his 15th season as head coach.

"Paul knows there's no guarantee, that he must have a plan for

Syracuse to restore its football significance," Cantor said.

Next season promises to be pressure-packed. Crouthamel, one of Pasqualoni's staunchest supporters, is retiring in June and whoever succeeds him will evaluate the football program and make recommendations to Cantor on whether any changes should be made.

The Orange (6-5, 4-2 Big East) tied for the conference championship and will play in the Champs Sports Bowl.

## Boise State's Hawkins signs five-year, \$2.6M extension

BOISE, Idaho — Boise State coach Dan Hawkins signed a five-year, \$2.6 million contract extension on Tuesday that would keep him with the Broncos through the 2009 season.

During Hawkins' four years as head coach, Boise State has won the consecutive Western Athletic Conference championships and compiled a 44-6 record, including a perfect 11-0 this year.

# Wie to play again in PGA event after just missing cut last year

The Associated Press

HONOLULU — Michelle Wie will make another appearance on the PGA Tour after accepting a sponsor's exemption Tuesday night to play next month in the Sony Open.

The exemption was expected, especially after Wie came within one shot of making the cut in the Sony Open last year.

"This is really great," Wie said in a telephone interview. "I had such a great experience last year. Hopefully I'll do a lot better. My goal is to be in the top 20."

Wie was 14 last January when she shot a 68 in the second round, the lowest score ever by a female amateur, excluding amateurs. She finished at even-par 140 at Waialae Country Club.

## Armstrong won't decide until May about Tour of France

AUSTIN, Texas — Six-time defending Tour of France champion Lance Armstrong says he

## Sports briefs

won't decide whether to race in cycling's most prestigious event in 2005 until next May, two months before the race begins.

Armstrong, 33, told the Austin American-Statesman in Wednesday's editions he'll compete for another two years, but that he's knocked out of the race, according to 2005 schedule—racing in the European spring classics or the Tour of France.

## Colombian boxer dies after KO

PANAMA CITY, Panama — Colombian boxer Carlos Meza died Tuesday, four days after being knocked out against Ricardo Cordoba in the Atlantic port city of Colon.

Meza, 26, never regained consciousness after being knocked out in the 12th round by a bantamweight bout against Ricardo Cordoba in the Atlantic port city of Colon.

# Utah's Smith goes from obscurity to Heisman hopeful

BY DOUG ALDEN  
The Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — So much has changed in Alex Smith's life the past two years, he's still trying to sort through it all.

He's gone from being a frustrated freshman considering a transfer to leading Utah into college football's elite as the first team from a mid-major conference to play in a Bowl Championship Series bowl game. The next stop on his meteoric rise could be New York for Saturday's Heisman Trophy presentation.

He'll find out Wednesday if he's a finalist in a tightly contested race that is sure to leave at least a couple of viable candidates out of the mix.

"People ask me if I want to win the Heisman. Of course I'd love to. But I just want to get the junior quarterback said. "I think the experience would be great. It's something that not too many people get to go in their life."

Smith's statistics are as good as any quarterback's, but playing in the Mountain West Conference, those numbers aren't called into question because of the quality of competition. So his 28 touchdown passes, four interceptions and 2,624 passing yards seem to carry an asterisk. Despite completing 66 percent of his passes and rushing for 10 touchdowns, Smith is considered a long shot to win the Heisman.

But by guiding the fifth-ranked Utes to an 11-0 record and a spot in the Fiesta Bowl, he might make the cut and get to go to New York — which surprises Smith as much as anybody.

"I didn't know how I compared to other quarterbacks. I didn't know how much publicity we were going to get. That was the part that was so shocking to me. It's still shocking to me right now," Smith said. "When you're an athlete at Utah, you've had that mid-set for a long time because you probably didn't get recruited by big schools."

If Smith does go, he may be sitting with an old friend. Southern California running back Reggie Bush was one year behind Smith at Helix High School outside San Diego and could also be a Heisman finalist.

"He took a much more direct route," Smith said of Bush.

Smith hadn't widely recruited and ended up at Utah, where he was first discouraged first semester under former coach Ron McBride.

He played in two games late in

the season as the Utes tried to snap out of a six-game losing streak, losing a year of eligibility.

Smith was so disheartened he thought about transferring if McBride stayed. McBride was fired after the season, so Smith decided to wait to see who was taking over. When he found out it was Urban Meyer from Bowling Green, he wasn't quite sure what to think.

"Honestly, when they announced it, I didn't know who he was and I wasn't following it pretty closely," he said.

That was two years ago this month and was a bigger turning point in Smith's life than he knew. Smith battled upperclassmen

Brett Elliott and Lance Rice through spring practice as all three tried to grasp Meyer's spread offense.

As the youngest of the bunch, Smith said he got the most attention.

"Everything I did was wrong and we were going to change it," Smith said. "My release was too slow so we've got to speed that up. We're going to change how you throw the ball. We're going to put 30 pounds on you. You're too small. We've got to get you faster..."

Meyer did succeed in getting Smith bigger. At 6 feet 4, he was only about 180 pounds when Meyer took over. He weighs about 210 now, still a little on the light side.

Learning the offense was a bigger challenge. "He's gone from being a third-string quarterback to the best in college football," said Meyer, who accepted the coaching job at Florida last week. "I still believe that. I know some of these other guys are starting to put up some numbers, but I still believe Alex is as good as anybody in the country."

Smith didn't take over until the third game of the 2003 season. Elliott had broken his wrist, leaving Smith as the starter against California. Smith completed 18 of 28 passes and rushed for a touchdown in his starting debut, a 31-24 victory over the Bears.

"That's when things really started to make sense to me as far as understanding the offense. Things clicked as far as what we were trying to do," Smith said.

All of a sudden, I was like 'OK, I kind of get this.' Everything slowed down for me."

As for this season, there's still the Fiesta Bowl against Pitts-



Utah's Alex Smith did not start until the third game of last season. This year he has thrown for 2,624 yards with 28 touchdowns and four interceptions. The junior has also rushed for 10 scores.



Southern Cal is 25-1 when junior QB Matt Leinart (11) starts. He has passed for 2,990 yards and 28 touchdowns with six interceptions this season. Leinart finished sixth in Heisman Trophy balloting in 2003.

# Southern Cal thankful for injury that pushed Leinart to gridiron

BY JOHN NADEL  
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Matt Leinart was quite a baseball prospect, showing so much promise as a left-handed pitcher that scouts took notice before high school.

"I threw heat, man," he said with a smile. "That's really what I wanted to do. And then, I blew my shoulder out, right after football season my freshman year."

Leinart would never pitch again, instead changing his focus to football.

Good move. Since succeeding Carson Palmer in 2003 Southern California's starting quarterback 15 months ago, Leinart has guided the top-ranked Trojans to a 25-1 record.

Leinart finished sixth in Heisman Trophy balloting as a sophomore last season, and he's among the leading contenders for this year's award, to be presented Saturday in New York. The finalists will be announced Wednesday.

It all began for Leinart with that shoulder injury.

"It's crazy how everything fell into place," Leinart said. Leinart's shoulder was damaged to the point that he needed reconstructive surgery. And that wasn't the worst of it. Leinart's doctor recommended that as a precaution he not play competitive sports as a sophomore at Mater Dei High in suburban Santa Ana.

"It was pretty tough on him," said Leinart's father, Bob. That's an understatement.

"I was really depressed," Leinart went on to become a star at Mater Dei, but he had to wait his turn at USC. And he almost got passed over, barely winning the starting quarterback job in a tight battle with three others in the spring of 2003.

Leinart hadn't thrown a pass at USC when he took his first snap Auburn the following fall, and he had to fill the shoes of the Heisman Trophy-winning Palmer.

No problem. Leinart passed for

3,556 yards and 38 touchdowns with only nine interceptions in leading the Trojans to a 12-1 record and The Associated Press national championship.

Some said the presence of Mike Williams and Keary Colbert, two of the country's top wide receivers, had a lot to do with Leinart's success.

Maybe so, but it was more of the same this year while breaking in new starting receivers. Leinart has passed for 2,990 yards and 28 touchdowns with only six interceptions in leading No. 1 USC (12-0) to the Bowl Championship Series title game in the Orange Bowl against No. 2 Oklahoma.

"Matt's made a huge progression since he's been here," USC tight end Alex Holmes said. "Since he started playing, he's been spectacular."

Offensive coordinator Norm Chow says Leinart is as good as any quarterback he's coached — and that's great company. Along with Palmer, Chow has tutored Philip Rivers at North Carolina State, and Steve Young, Ty Detmer and Jim McMahon, at BYU.

Leinart became a Heisman candidate not long after the 21-year-old junior led the Trojans to their co-national title last season. Then it got a big boost on Nov. 27, when he passed for a career-high 400 yards and a school record-tying five touchdowns in a 41-10 victory over Notre Dame.

He might have come back to the pack last week, though. He was an efficient 24-for-34 for 242 yards with one interception in USC's 29-24 victory over UCLA. He didn't throw a touchdown pass for the first time as a starter.

Meanwhile, Leinart's backfield-mate Reggie Bush ran for 204 yards and two stunning TDs against the Bruins to bolster his Heisman résumé.

The mild-mannered Leinart has taken all the hype and attention in stride.

"He is very laid back," his father said. "Nothing bothers him. He doesn't mind pressure. That's how he is, all the time. Except on the field. He's intense, but all calm. Where that comes from, I'm not sure."

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Send your wishlist to [SantaC@mac.istripes.odm.il](mailto:SantaC@mac.istripes.odm.il)

Include a return mailing address and Santa will respond with a personalized postcard in the mail. Children's names may also appear in the "News from the North Pole" section of the European edition of STARS AND STRIPES on December 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>. Wishlists must be emailed before December 15<sup>th</sup>.

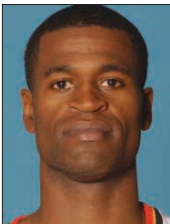


## SPORTS

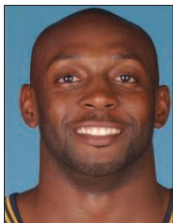
Kings win for 12th time  
in 13 games but don't make up  
any ground on Suns, Page 45



Ron Artest



Stephen Jackson



Anthony Johnson



David Harrison



AP

Indiana Pacers' Jermaine O'Neal, left, was charged with two counts of misdemeanor assault and battery for his role a brawl that began on the court and spilled into the stands at The Palace of Auburn Hills on Nov. 19. Pacers Ron Artest, David Harrison, Stephen Jackson and Anthony Johnson were charged with one misdemeanor count. Five fans also were charged in the incident.

# 10 charged in NBA brawl

## 5 Pacers, 5 fans face misdemeanors; chair-thrower charged with felony

BY SARAH KARUSH

The Associated Press

PONTIAC, Mich. — Five Indiana Pacers players and five fans were charged Wednesday for fighting in the stands and on the court at the end of a game against the Detroit Pistons last month.

Pacers Ron Artest, Stephen Jackson, David Harrison and Anthony Johnson all were charged with one count of assault and battery, a misdemeanor that carries up to three months in jail and a

fine of up to \$500. Jermaine O'Neal, a three-time NBA All-Star, was charged with two counts of assault and battery.

All the fans were charged with misdemeanor assault and battery, including Pistons star Ben Wallace's brother, David. Bryant Jackson also was charged with felony assault for allegedly throwing a chair into the fray, Oakland County prosecutor David Gorycya said. He faces up to four years in prison if convicted.

Gorycya singled out spectator

John Green, who faces two assault counts and, the prosecutor said, "in my mind single-handedly incited this whole interaction between the fans and players and probably is the one that's most culpable." Green is accused of throwing a cup at Artest, splashing him and sparking the melee.

John Ackerman and William Paulson, each facing an assault charge, also were accused of throwing cups in players' faces. In addition, two men were charged for walking onto the

court at The Palace of Auburn Hills. Police said other fans could be charged, too.

James W. Burdick, Jackson's lawyer, said it was "unfair and inappropriate" to charge his client.

"The problem is this: a few crazed drunken fans who created a chaotic situation," Burdick said. "Steve responded in a way that he thought was necessary to protect himself and protect his friends."

Walter Piszczatowski, Harrison's lawyer, said: "David was acting as the peacekeeper through-

out that evening. He was trying to make sure everybody was safe."

Two days after the brawl, NBA Commissioner David Stern suspended Artest for the rest of the season. Jackson was banned for 30 games, O'Neal for 25, and other players received shorter suspensions.

The players' union is appealing the suspensions of Artest, Jackson and O'Neal, and a grievance hearing is scheduled for Thursday in New York.

**Major leaguers  
authorize union  
to work toward  
tougher steroid  
testing plan;  
Garciaparra  
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**Heisman hopefuls  
Leinart, Smith  
took rapid route  
to top after  
becoming starters**

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Southern Cal  
quarterback  
Matt Leinart

Utah  
quarterback  
Alex Smith



**DODDS wrestler Maxey tough on two continents** Page 48

